



THE

Philatelic Journal OF INDIA

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EDITOR:

W. RENOUF, I. C. S.

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The Philatelic Journal of India.

Vol. XXIV, No. 1

JANUARY.

[1920.]

The Philatelic Society of India.

CHE following have joined the Philatelic Society of India :—

Lieut., C. J. Morris,
2/3rd Q. A. I. Gurkha Rifles,

Asst. Recruiting Officer,
Laheria Sarai,
B. N. W. Ry.

G. A. C. Rosselloty,
2nd/1st Gurkha Rifles,
Dharmasala, Punjab.

Proposed by—
Jno. Godinho, Esq.

Seconded by—
W. Renouf, Esq.,
I. C. S.

Proposed by—
Revd. W. A. H. Parker.

Seconded by—
Jno. Godinho, Esq.

Wilmot Corfield.

WE are in receipt of sad news which will be received with great regret by members of the Philatelic Society of India. Mr. Corfield is dead.

The late Mr. Corfield was first in India in the early nineties. He was an ardent Philatelist and included in his collection the Fiscal and Telegraph stamps of the colonies and countries he collected. He first attracted the notice of stamp collectors in India and Europe by the publication of the "Philatelic World" in July 1894. This Monthly was the first official organ of the then Philatelic Society of Bengal, which subsequently adopted

the more comprehensive title of the *Philatelic Society of India*. He commenced collecting in 1865, and continued doing so, till his death. He was an active philatelist and was very hopeful of the future greatness and popularity of Fiscals.

One of his characteristics was never to part with a stamp once placed in his album, unless to replace it by a better specimen.

In 1870, he inherited the collection of his brother who had died in 1865. This included very many fine old stamps especially of Barbadoes, Trinidad, Natal, Mauritius, Ceylon and the Australian Colonies.

An accountant by profession, but a writer by inclination, before he came out to India, he had conducted a paper in Birmingham. In India, he at once identified himself with the investigations of the Calcutta Historical Society, contributing largely to their publications. A versifier of much more than ordinary merit, his topical verse which appeared under the name of "Dak" was greatly appreciated, being full of point and humour.

In 1887, he won the first prize for an article on the " Benefits arising from Stamp Collecting." This appeared in the Philatelic Quarterly published by Stafford Smith.

The Philatelic Society of India owes him a great debt of gratitude. Continuously, for many years, he was the main stay of its Journal and gradually raised it to a pre-eminent position. His record philatelic work is to be found in these volumes. He wrote on various subjects affecting our hobby. One of the handbooks of the Philatelic Society of India, namely, the Adhesive Fiscal and Telegraph stamps of British India, was the result of the joint collaboration of Mr. Crafton and Mr. Corfield. Mr. Corfield was Honorary Treasurer of our Society for two years, and Honorary Secretary for 10 years.

Mr. Corfield became a member of the Royal Philatelic Society of London, a Fellow in 1907 and a member of the Council in 1911.

The interest which he took in the Philatelic Society of India and its official organ is patent from the fact, that, after his retirement, I, from time to time, received letters from him containing valuable suggestions for the advancement of the interests of the Society and of the Journal published under its auspices.

Settling in Sydenham, Mr. Corfield was elected to the Lewisham Borough Council. When the war broke out, he placed his services at the disposal of his country, being employed as an accountant in the Ministry of Munitions. His long hours at this office, combined with other work, civic

and literary, undermined his strength and brought about the breakdown which overtook him last summer.

A friend writes justly of him in the *Sydenham Gazette*—"In private life he was the kindest of friends, the most genial of companions, and those who knew him best were most impressed by his high character, his simple, unaffected piety, his unfailing charm and courtesy."

The deep sympathy of the members of the Society will go forth to Mrs. and Miss Corfield in their bereavement.

J. G.

Notes.

In opening a new volume, our twenty-fourth, the usual review will be made of the past year's history and activities of the Society.

New members number 20. This more than counterbalances resignations and the Society is stronger than ever. With more settled times, and the arrival of the new army with doubtless many philatelists among its officers, we look to still further development in the future.

The circulation of the Journal continues to expand.

Our warm acknowledgments are extended to those who have assisted us with contributions to the Journal, these including the Hon'ble Justice Macleod, Messrs. Gordon-Jones, F. C. Earl, R. W. Gray, E. D. Puzey, Dr. K. D. Cooper and Col. Stewart. "Tancred" may wish to preserve his anonymity. We are also much beholden to our "Extracts."

The chief supporter and indispensable collaborator of the Editor in his labours is however Mr. Jno. Godinho. Mr. Godinho has continued his monumental work on "old Indian Postal Frankings" and has, in addition, made many further valuable contributions to Indian Philately. May he continue for many years to be the chief pillar of the Society and of its Journal!

The articles on Indian Cancellations were concluded and then reproduced in handbook form, free copies being sent to members. The book has had an encouraging sale, and, with increasing realisation of the value of the study of cancellations by specialists, the Society should, in course of time, dispose of the entire edition. A series of articles on Indian "used abroads" has been begun. A study of Indian letter sheets by Mr. E. D. Puzey deserves special notice. Enough has been written to justify the claim that Indian Philately is thoroughly alive.

The Dum-Dum Exchange Club under the management of Mr. R. F. Stoney is flourishing, there being a strong demand for stamps.

We again make an appeal to those who are now in England and who were the chief supporters of the Journal in bygone years. Some of our old editors and contributors stand very high among writers on philatelic subjects in England, and we should welcome an occasional greeting from them.

* * * * *

From an advertisement in the "Pioneer" it appears that the Alwar State is asking for offers for some 200,000 copies of the 1 a. brown stamp. If this immense remainder is taken up by dealers, one may expect to see quotations drop to the level of "Seebecks." The present catalogue rates in Gibbons are yellow-brown, 1sh., and red-brown, 8d., unused. But there is very little demand.

* * * * *

The Cydonia issue which was announced as having been issued by the Greek Government in Asia Minor is now declared by *Stamp Collecting* to be unauthorised, despite the fact that stamps were sold through the post-office.

* * * * *

A special issue of 14 values is to appear in Sleswig during the coming plebiscite. It will be inscribed with the words "Sleswig Plebiscite."

* * * * *

The following postage rates on inland letters in Mesopotamia are notified by authority on the 18th October, 1919:—

The 1st ounce (2½ tolas)—1½ annas.

Every additional ounce or part of an ounce—1 anna.

* * * * *

The Ukraine trident overprints on Russian stamps are attracting much attention in England. There are 17 varieties of the trident known at present. A complete set of all varieties is estimated to be worth over £1,000.

* * * * *

We have received by the courtesy of N. W. T. Wilson, a copy of Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Catalogue of the auction sale of the late Colonel Hancock's collection of Afghanistan and Cashmere, now fixed definitely for the 18th and 19th March, 1920. We shall be glad to send it to any applicant. This is a unique opportunity for the acquisition of rare pieces in these two countries.

* * * * *

British Indian Stamps Used Abroad.

CHAPTER III.—BRITISH INDIAN POST-OFFICES IN THE PERSIAN GULF AND TURKISH ARABIA—*continued.*

At the outset, the post-offices were under the supervision of the Political authorities, and, at the principal places, the duties of postmasters were performed by officials of the respective Political Agencies who received allowances from the Postal Department. This was a natural course as the post-offices were intimately connected with the Political Agencies in their diplomatic and trading aspects.

In time, the development of correspondence and the increase in the different branches of postal work necessitated the appointment of separate postmasters. This led to a certain amount of trouble in some places as certain postmasters endeavoured to assert their independence of the Political Agencies, with undesirable results in establishing relations with Ottoman official traders. The delicate position of these post-offices obviously necessitated close relations with the Political officers, and, in 1864, after some discussion, the postmasters were definitely placed under the control of the Political authorities, and were considered as part of their establishment, being subject, however, to the Postmaster-General, Bombay, in matters of internal postal procedure.

Departmental inspections of these offices were few and far between until 1882 when a European Superintendent of post-offices was appointed for the group.

Throughout, parcels have been interchanged as between post-offices in India. The insurance system was introduced in 1877 but was withdrawn in 1885 on the protest of the steamer companies which refused responsibility for insured parcels. The objection of the steamer companies was due to the public using the insured post for the transmission of specie and pearls, this affecting the receipts of the steamer companies. The British India Company pointed out, for example, that the carriage of pearls as specie formed almost their only inducement for calling at Bahrein.

The Bagdad-Damascus-Beyrouth post continued for some years, although subject to repeated objection by the Turkish Government. The British authorities held out against these protests for the simple reason that the Ottoman

post could not be relied on, and that the Damascus route "provided the unique means of corresponding directly with Syria in nine days, with Egypt in thirteen or fourteen days and England in from twenty-four to twenty-seven days." In 1869, the Turkish Government established a rival post line between Damascus and Beyrouth, but it was not until 1881 that they organised a dromedary post between Baghdad and Damascus. In 1886, the English line was closed "owing partly to a failure of funds locally, and partly to there being no longer the same necessity for its maintenance." The Resident at Baghdad was specially allowed by the Government of India in 1848 to levy certain postage charges for articles despatched by the desert route. It is not clear that stamps were ever used for prepayment by this route. It is highly improbable that they were used before 1869, the date of the opening of the regular Baghdad Post Office, and it seems unlikely that they were ever used. But, in any case, entires by this route would be of great interest and value.

Other consular posts in existence in 1867 were from Baghdad to Teheran *via* Kermanshah, from Bushire to Teheran, and from Bushire to Shiraz. These were closed in 1878 when the Persian Postal Department was formed.

The business of the British Indian post-offices, established originally, in the absence of Turkish and Persian postal facilities, for the convenience of our Political Agencies and traders and for persons trading with India, developed in a manner which had never been anticipated, and eventually appropriated a large share of the postal work of the neighbouring tracts. This was of course due to the unsatisfactory local postal organisations. In Mesopotamia, the postmaster at Basra started an office in his dwelling in the town in 1870, and a pillar letter box was also placed in the Kasim Aga Bazar in 1882. The town office rapidly became of considerable importance and was looked upon locally as a recognised institution. At Baghdad, a regular delivery was made in the town and letters were sent to Kerbella, about 60 miles distant. This special arrangement was for the convenience of Indian Muhammadans settled at this shrine of the grandson of the Prophet. On the Tigris steamers, Indian postage stamps were sold and letters were delivered and collected at Kut-el-ainarah, Kut, Ali Gharbi and Qurnah. The Baghdad post-office proved an immense boon to Baghdad, there being a rapid expansion of every branch of postal business.

When Turkey and Persia entered the International Postal Union, they very naturally desired to obtain the removal of the encroachments on their sovereign prerogatives. With the Persian Government, there was little or no friction. The Shah's Government was fully alive to the utility of the English

post-offices in the Persian Gulf and it established Persian post-offices at Bushire and Bandar Abbas to work in union with the English post-offices at these places as offices of exchange. The Persian Postal Department has been fairly successful. In May, 1902, orders were issued to all the Indian post-offices in Persian Territory to discontinue sending letters for delivery outside the post-office except those addressed to high officers of the British or Persian Governments, or to foreign consuls, as Persian post-offices were open at all the places at which the Indian post-offices existed.

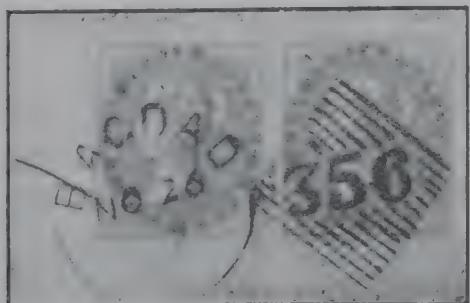
But the Ottoman Postal Department was characterised by incapacity and unreliableness. The British desert line to Damascus and Beyrouth was eventually withdrawn in 1886, and the British post-offices curtailed activities in Turkish territory which had not been sought, confining themselves to a window delivery, to the carriage of letters between their own post-offices, and abolishing the Tigris steamer letter boxes. But, despite the obstructive and harassing tactics of the Turkish official, the post-offices at Baghdad and Basra remained open like the consular offices at Beyrouth and Smyrna until the outbreak of war with Turkey in November, 1914.

Until the organisation of the Persian Postal service in 1870 there were no post offices, British or Persian, in the interior of Persia, and the British legation at Teheran and the agencies at Ispahan and Shiraz performed, in a sense, the functions of post-offices, collecting letters for despatch to Bushire and India, and distributing those received by the ambassador's mail.

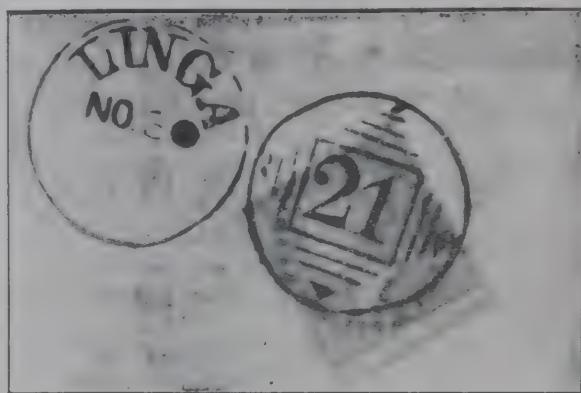
Between 1870 and 1877, ordinary unpaid postage rates were charged on letters sent by the British post office from Bushire to Teheran and from Baghdad to Teheran and intermediate places. As Indian postage stamps were supplied to the Teheran legation and the agencies at Ispahan and Shiraz in the same period, 1870—1877, for sale to those who sent letter to Bushire or Indian post-offices by these routes, it may be inferred that Indian stamps were used in prepayment of postage from these places. The rules applicable to local depots for the sale of stamps in India were extended to the Teheran legation and the agencies at Ispahan and Shiraz. There is nothing to show whether obliterations or post-office marks with name and date were issued to Teheran, Ispahan and Shiraz, but covers, if forthcoming, would doubtless prove the place of origin. It is an important fact to be noted that Teheran, Ispahan and Shiraz are shown to be places where Indian stamps were used in the period 1870—1877, and examples would be of the greatest rarity.

Prior to 1884, the Persian Gulf and Mesopotamia post-offices used obliterations with numbers and letters for the cancellation of postage stamps

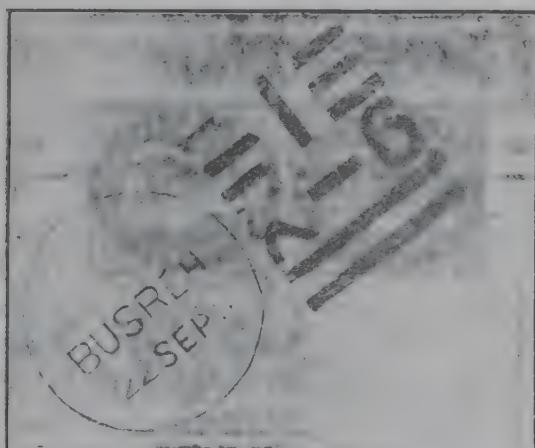
similar to those used in British India. After 1884, the obliteration mark is an office stamp exhibiting the name of the post office. For the identification of stamps used before 1884 it is necessary to know the obliterator used in each office prior to 1884 and an account is therefore needed of these obliteration marks.



Type 4.



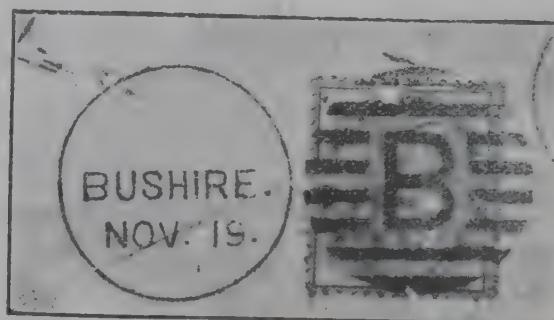
Type 5.



Type 6.



Type 7.



Type 8.

Type 4 corresponds to the contemporary Bombay circle cancellation and was used down to 1869, when the post offices passed over to the Sind Circle.

Type 5 is the Sind Circle mark introduced in 1869. The number in the cancellation mark is unfortunately not conclusive proof of the origin of the postage stamp, as similar marks were in use in other postal circles in India, each postal circle having its own independent series of numbers.

Type 6 is the Karachi Circle obliteration mark introduced in 1872 as part of an all-India system of cancellations. This also appears without the upper figure. The combination K-6 denotes "disbursing office number 6." The addition of a second figure above or below denotes an office subordinate to the disbursing office.

Type 7 is a modification of type 6 and only shows the letter B. standing for Bombay.

Type 8 is the same as type 4 except that the outer figure formed is a circle in place of a square.

Types 7 and 8 were introduced in 1879 or 1880, on the retransfer of the Persian Gulf offices to the Bombay Circle. These cancellation marks were used throughout the Bombay Circle and consequently, by themselves, they prove nothing as regards the despatch office. After 1884, as already stated, the cancellation marks show the name of the despatch office, and it is unnecessary to illustrate them.

Office numbers prior to 1884 as far as ascertained are tabulated below :—

Name of office.	Date of opening.	Type 4 to 1869-70.	Type 5 to 1873.	Type 6 to 1879.
Bushire	...	(1864)	...	26
Muscat	...	(1864)	300	K-5
Linga	...	(1867)	...	K-4
Bandar Abbas	...	(1867)	...	21
Baghdad	...	(1868)	356	2
Basra	...	(1868)	...	K-5
Guadur	...	(1868)	...	18
				K-6
				1
				K-6

Jask and other offices opened after 1880 would merely exhibit type 7 and subsequent cancellation marks and need not be included in this table.

It is noted that 300 in type 1 has been seen on a letter from Muscat with date 1875. Perhaps an obliterator in type 6 had not been received by that date, or perhaps the postmaster omitted to bring it into use !

The numbers between 18 and 26 inclusive total 9, while there were only 7 Persian Gulf post offices in existence between 1873—79. How are two extra numbers to be accounted for if all numbers between 18 and 26 are Persian Gulf numbers ?

Service stamps have been used by the various consuls and political officers in the Gulf and in Mesopotamia. The writer has, however, only seen three specimens up to the present.

Lists are given below of the stamps seen from each post office in the Victorian and Edwardian series. Georgian stamps are not included, but specimens can doubtless be obtained in all denominations. Catalogue numbers are those in Gibbons, 1919.

Stamp.	NAME OF POST OFFICE.						
	Bushire.	Muscat.	Linga.	Bandar Abbas.	Baghdad.	Basra.	Guadur.
East India Company, wmk. Elephant's head—							
44. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue	...	*	*	*	*	*	
45. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., pale blue	...	*	*	*	*	*	
48. 1a., pale brown	...	*	*	*	*	*	
49. 1a., deep brown	...	*	*	*	*	*	
50. 1a., chocolate	...	*	*	*	*	*	
51. 2a., yellow	...	*	*	*	*	*	
52. 2a., orange	...	*	*	*	*	*	
53. 2a., brown-orange	...	*	*	*	*	*	
54. 4a., green	...	*	*	*	*	*	
55. 8a., carmine, die I	...	*	*	*	*	*	
59. 4a., green, die I	...	*	*	*	*	*	
60. 4a., deep green, die I	...	*	*	*	*	*	
61. 4a., blue-green, die II	...	*	*	*	*	*	
62. 6a., 8p., slate	...	*	*	*	*	*	
63. 8a., rose	...	*	*	*	*	*	
63a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., deep blue, die II	*	*	*	*	*	*	
63b. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue, die II	...	*	*	*	*	*	
67. 1r., slate	...	*	*	*	*	*	
68. 6a., olive-bistre	...	*	*	*	*	*	
69. 6a., pale brown	...	*	*	*	*	*	
70. 12a., Venetian red	...	*	*	*	*	*	

Service, Muscat, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue, On H. M. S. No. 531.

In later Victorian and in Edwardian issues, stamps seen thus far are as below—

Bushire (1864)—Victoria, 1882—1901. 71, 72, 72 (a), 75, 76, 77, 78, 78 (a), 79, 81, 82, 83, 86, 90, 96, 98, 98 (a), 99, 100, 100 (a), 101.

Edward. 102, 105 (a), 106, 119, 120, 121, 566.

Muscat (1864)—Victoria, 1882—1901. 72 (a), 76, 81, 96, 98 (a), 100 (a), 101.

Edward. 103, 106, 119.

Linga (1867)—Victoria, 1882—1901. 72 (a), 75, 76, 78, 79, 81, 96, 98, 99.

Edward. 106, 120, 121.

Bandar Abbas (1867)—Victoria, 1882—1901. 72, 72 (a), 75, 76, 96, 100, 101.

Edward. 106, 120.

Baghdad (1868)—Victoria, 1882—1901. 71, 72, 72 (a), 75, 76, 77, 78, 78 (a), 79, 80, 81, 82, 86, 90, 98, 99, 100 (a), 101.

Edward. 104, 105, 105 (a), 106, 108, 112, 120, 121.

Basra (1868)—Victoria, 1882—1901. 71, 72, 72 (a), 75, 76, 77, 78, 78 (a), 81, 96, 98, 98 (a), 99, 100, 101.

Edward. 103, 104, 105, 106, 119.

Guadur (1868)—None seen thus far after 1882.

Jask (1880)—Victoria, 1882—1901. 101.

Bahrein (1884)—Victoria, 1882—1901. 75, 76, 78 (a), 99, 101, 539.

Edward. 103, 106, 120.

Mohammerah (1892)—Victoria, 1882—1901. 72 (a), 75, 98 (a), 99, 101.

Edward. 104, 105, 106, 119.

Pasni (1903)—*Dubai* (1909), *Henjam* (1913) and *Chahber* (1913)—No record.

The record is very incomplete owing to the restricted opportunities of observation. But it has been thought advisable to print it for what it is worth. It will, we trust, serve as a basis for a more complete list later on.

In East India stamps we have seen very few 4 as., and only one of 12 as. (date 1891). The 8 and 9 pies were probably not supplied to these offices. We have only seen one stamp "On H. M. S."

In the later issues, we have seen two stamps of 8 as. and two of one rupee, besides two stamps "On H. M. S." We may assume that values from 8 annas upwards and service stamps are rare.

High value stamps were probably used in considerable numbers on the insured parcels of specie sent in the period 1877—1885. But the wrappers have of course not been kept and specimens will only turn up by accident. During the first part of this period the postmarks in type 6 may identify a few stamps. After 1880, or 1881, the cancellations are in types 7 and 8 and afford no clue whatever.

It is probable that stamps used at Bushire, Baghdad and Basra are the most plentiful in this group.

I. E. F. stamps have been used at some and probably at all of the various Mesopotamia and Gulf post offices during the War. Iraq stamps are now current in Mesopotamia, presumably to the exclusion of Indian stamps. But Indian stamps are still used in the Gulf posts outside Mesopotamia.

It may be assumed that no special endeavour has been made by dealers or collectors to segregate stamps used in the Persian Gulf post offices. Perhaps the appearance of these notes will rescue specimens from their present obscurity.

Review.

ENDLE'S DIRECTORY.*

WE are in receipt of the 28th edition of this useful Directory, compiled and published by S. Utton.

The volume before us is a visible proof of the strength and universality of our hobby. Its pages convince us that there is no country in the world but has its collectors, its dealers and its society. The possession of this Directory puts one in touch with all the active forces which contribute to maintain the vitality of philately. Any novice anxious for any information about Stamp Collecting has only to consult the Directory, and he will find in it information to satiety. This annual is deserving of the patronage of all interested in philately.

*Endle's Directory published by S. Utton, 74 Canterbury Road, Croydon, price 1/6.



The half-anna, India, 1854, used on the 1st October 1854.

In the Handbook on Early Indian Cancellations, the very special interest was indicated which would attach to a cover with stamps of 1854 bearing the date October 1st, 1854, the date from which stamps could be used legally for the prepayment of postage in India. Covers of Great Britain, of the first day on which stamps were used, are much sought after, and exist, we believe, in fair number. But, thus far, little attention has been given to the preservation of early Indian entires. The result has been destruction rather than preservation.

Last March, we chronicled a pair of the 1a, 1854, in bright red on a cover dated October 5th, 1854, in the possession of Mr. D. C. Gray. This beat the previous earliest known by four days. Mr. D. C. Gray now sends us the following letter :—

DEAR SIR,—I write with reference to the extract from my last letter to you published in the March, 1919, number of your paper (page 41), in which was chronicled the earliest known surviving dated letter bearing the stamps of the first (1854) issue of India, *viz.*, a pair of the 1 anna stamp on letter postmarked 5 October, 1854 (letter dated 4 October, 1854).

I recently obtained a beautiful used pair of the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna used on the entire letter postmarked 1 October, 1854—the first legal day of use:

I send a reproduction which you may think of sufficient interest to insert in your paper. The stamps are from the top left corner of the sheet, with a portion of the corner rosette, are indigo in colour, and are, naturally, from the 1st May, 1854 transfer. The postmarks are :—

Murree, October 1, 1854, Bombay, October 13, the (London) date stamp S. No. 17, 1854, and Cardiff November 18, 1854. The letter is from an army officer—hence the franking at only 1 anna, and is in itself of interest. The letter is headed Murree, 1 October, 1854, and the following extract from it relates to the then new rates of postage introduced together with the first postage stamps for British India. “I have been waiting until the new post-

age came in, which is to-day. An overland letter which used to cost to Bombay before 15 annas only, comes to 1 anna, so you can fancy how very much they have reduced the postages."

This is, I believe, the only letter franked with these stamps on the first legal day of use so far recorded, and is the only one I have succeeded in finding after searching for a number of years.

Yours faithfully,

D. C. GRAY.

London, 27th October 1919.

We tender our warm congratulations to Mr. Gray on the unique piece which has come into his possession and on the successful issue of his long search. Specialists in Indian Stamps will feel under an obligation to Mr. Gray, for filling this important gap in the record of Indian Stamps.

We regret that it is not practicable to reproduce usefully the photograph kindly sent by Mr. Gray, as the all-important date marks, although clear in the photograph, are so dim that they would not show in a block from the photograph.

W. R.

The fluctuating rupee and stamp prices in India.

THE abnormal and continued rise in exchange has naturally been a source of trouble in adjusting the accounts of the Dum-Dum Exchange Club.

The practice in settled times was for stamps to be priced in sterling with reference to Gibbons' Catalogue, and for recoveries and payments to be in rupees at the rate of 1sh. 4d. As long as the rupee was stable there was no difficulty whatever. But when the rupee rose to 1sh. 6d., continued adjustment at 1sh. 4d. involved a departure from actual facts. Some gained, while others lost. When the Honorary Secretary increased his adjustment rate to 1sh. 6d., the elusive rupee forthwith mounted to higher altitudes, and the Honorary Secretary remained confronted with the same problem. Mr. Stoney has, we understand, received many letters of re-

monstrance and suggestion. His sole desire is to do what is equitable and fair, and he has now circularised the members of the Club and asked them what their wishes are. Do they desire to price stamps in sterling or in rupees? If in sterling, then at what rate is he to adjust accounts?

As every business man knows, an unstable rupee is inevitably a source of unexpected loss or gain in foreign trade. It is clear that the knot has to be cut.

Pricing in rupees does not appear to offer a solution of the difficulty. The price of stamps in India is governed by the European market and we, in India, follow Stanley Gibbons. Mr. Stoney notes that from the date of pricing the stamps on a sheet to the date of adjustment is often almost a year! Stamps priced in annas representing half catalogue a year ago, would now be paid for almost at full catalogue!

The rising rupee means a heavy loss to all collectors and dealers in India whose budget is wholly in rupees. If they sell, they are compelled to have regard to the English catalogue rate. A stamp priced at a pound was worth 15 rupees in India when the rupee was at 1sh. 4d. It must now be sold for less than 9 rupees with the rupee at 2sh. 4d. Nobody will pay more for it, for the stamp can be obtained at the lower rate in rupees by the simple process of ordering it from a dealer in England. A collection or a stock worth 15,000 rupees in India 18 months ago, can now only command about 8,500 rupees. This is a very serious matter for those whose concern is solely or even mainly with rupees. But there is no getting away from the hard fact.

On the other hand, if we think in sterling, or mainly in sterling, the change in the rupee does not affect the value of our collection or holding in the least degree. We can obtain the same sum for it in sterling as before.

The majority of the members of the Dum-Dum Club measure their financial position in sterling and they are not disturbed to any appreciable extent as regards the value of their stamp collections by the rising rupee. They have always priced their collections in sterling. They are perhaps not wholly unaffected, for they have doubtless made purchases in rupees at 1sh. 4d. Still, the main fact for them is that their collections have always represented to them a sum in sterling. If they sold them in India, applying the current rate of exchange, whatever it may be, the sum remitted to England would not be affected.

Our sympathy must go out to Indian dealers and to dealers wholly resident in India who have been distinctly hit.

We return to the question as to how the transactions of the Dum Dum Exchange Club should be adjusted? We consider that stamps must be priced in sterling. With variations in exchange, there is no real advantage in pricing in annas and rupees. A buyer taking stamps for one hundred rupees when the rupee was at 1sh. 6d., would resent having to pay one hundred rupees for them later on in rupees worth 2sh. 4d. Further, to price every stamp in annas, and to compare prices asked in annas with the catalogue becomes a great trouble.

It is suggested that pricing should be in sterling and that adjustments should be at the rate prevailing at the date of adjustment. In this way, the vendor will get the equivalent of the sum in sterling which he placed on his stamps, and the purchaser will similarly pay exactly the equivalent of the sum in sterling which he expected to have to pay.

Those whose budget is in rupees will suffer at times—they may also gain at times. It is recognised that arguments can be put forward against the system which is suggested. But with this system we shall be adhering to English catalogue rates. Any other course tends to set up prices which are different from those indicated by the catalogue. Stamp prices in India are governed and will always be governed by market rates in England, and to depart from these in the slightest degree is merely to stop all transactions in stamps. The seller will not take the risk of finding that he receives less than the home rates. The purchaser will not take the risk of paying more. The losses inseparable from variations in exchange must be accepted with such philosophy as one can command as *kismat*.

As regards unused stamps, the situation is met in some degree by a general proportionate increase in home prices in sterling.

W. R.



Indian Stamps at Auction.

CHE following data of prices realised at an auction of Indian Convention States Stamps by Messrs. Plumridge and Co. have been kindly supplied by Mr. W. T. Wilson of Birmingham:—

* Indicates Unused.

INDIA.	No.	in Lot.	£	s.
Scinde District Post, $\frac{1}{2}$ a. white and $\frac{1}{2}$ a. blue, latter slightly torn		2	2	6
$\frac{1}{2}$ a. red, $9\frac{1}{2}$ arches, unused		1	7	10
4a., Plate 1, vertical pair with blue wavy lines, very fine	2		8	0
Ditto, ditto, a very fine single, blue line at bottom only	1		3	15
A horizontal pair, cut at corners and an * copy cut to shape	3		1	12
4a., close setting, a very fine horizontal pair	2		5	10
4a., a very fine single and a pair of the middle spacing, but cut at corners, latter on Entire	3		3	10
4a., three pairs, different shades, one pair cut at outside corners	6		8	0
4a., two pairs, different spacings and fine	4		9	10
4a., fine singles	3		3	5
4a., Plate 2, a superb single with blue wavy lines left and bottom and large margin all round	1		7	0
Serrated perf., 1a., superb copy on piece, a very rare stamp	1		12	10
2a., dull pink and 4a. green, * and very fine	2		1	8
$\frac{1}{2}$ a. blue, imperf., * with corner margins and very fine	1		1	6
2a. yellow-buff, imperf., * and very fine	1		1	18
Perf., 2a. green, S. G. 40e. * and very fine	1		2	5
1866, 6a., S. G. type 15, mint	1		1	14
1882-83, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., double print, mint, slight crease	1		1	18
A mint vertical pair	2		4	0
Ditto ditto, 2a. blue, mint	1		3	10
1905, $\frac{1}{4}$ a. on $\frac{1}{2}$ a., with inverted surcharge, very fine, S. G. 119a, very rare	1		6	0
Service, wmk. Elephant Head, 8 pies, mint pair, variety SEIVICE	2		1	1
Large Service, 2a., S. G. 515, mint	1		2	4
2a., S. G. 516, * and very fine, slightly rubbed on face	1		2	8
Another, used and very fair	1		2	2

	No. in	Lot.	£	s.
4a., very fine, S. G. 517	1		8	10
1867, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., Service, Postage in green, mint and used	2		2	0
1867-73, $\frac{1}{2}$ a. blue, Die 2, mint	1		1	4
6a. 8 pies, mint	1		3	5
1883, On H. S. M. on 1a., mint, with inverted overprint, S. G. 548	1		3	15
1906, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., variety no stop after M. S. G. 567b, very fine	1		1	6
I. E. F., $\frac{1}{2}$ a. green and 1a. carmine, variety double stop after F, in mint pairs	4		0	10
I. E. F., variety no stop after F on 3 pies and 1a.. in blocks of four, mint	8		0	10

CONVENTION STATES.

Chmaba error $\frac{1}{2}$ a. green *	1		1	16
Ditto 1a. brown *	1		3	5
1900-4 3 pair grey S. G. 38, overprint inverted, mint	1		1	6
Chmaba error $\frac{1}{2}$ a. green, mint	1		1	7
Ditto 1a. brown, mint	1		3	3
Ditto 2a. blue, mint	1		5	5
1914 S. G. 155, mint, black	4		1	14
Faridkot error K. E. T. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. green mint	1		1	0
Ditto 4a. mint	1		0	15
Error ARIDKOT 4a. mint	1		3	5
Service, KGT error, 1a. and 2a. mint	2		1	3
Gwalior 1885, $\frac{1}{2}$ a. 1a. and 2a. mint	3		0	16
June $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 2a. mint	4		1	18
4a. mint	1		1	2
6a. mint	1		1	7
8a. mint	1		1	12
1r. grey, mint	1		1	10
Inscription 15 to $15\frac{1}{2}$ mm. $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 and 2a. mint	3		2	10
$1\frac{1}{2}$ a. mint	1		1	16
4a. mint	1		2	2
6a. mint	1		2	8
1r. mint	1		2	6
Error ICR $\frac{1}{2}$ a. S. G. 63 mint	1		2	2
Ditto $2\frac{1}{2}$ a. grey S. G. 64 mint	1		9	10
1899, 3 pies $\frac{1}{2}$ mint, S. G. 67	1		1	14

	No. in Lot.	£	s
Service, the error SERSIV, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., mint, 1a., used, and 2a. in mint pair	4	0	18
Ditto, 4a. olive green, mint and extremely rare	1	4	0
Ditto, 8a. magenta, mint and a rarity	1	7	0
Jhind, 1885, the set of six, mint	6	6	0
1a. with overprint inverted, mint and rare	1	2	12
Ditto ditto, 2a., mint and very rare	1	2	16
Varieties JEEND in red on $\frac{1}{2}$ a., 2a. 4a. and 1 rupee, and in black on 1a. and 8a., all * and very fine, a rare set	6	4	10
Red overprint, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., 2a., 4a. and 1 rupee, mint	4	2	15
1886-98, 2 rupees, mint	1	2	0
3 rupees, mint	1	4	4
5 rupees, mint	1	4	15
1903-9, 3a. with double overprint, mint and rare, S. G. 162	1	2	2
Service, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., mint strip of three, showing the centre stamp with overprint inverted very rare	3	1	1
Service, red overprint JEEND, $\frac{1}{2}$ a. and 2a. and the 1a. with black, and JHIND overprint in red, $\frac{1}{2}$ a. and 2a., all mint, a rare set	5	2	15
Nabha, 1885, $\frac{1}{2}$ a. to 1 rupee, mint and very rare	6	6	0
Error ABHA, $1\frac{1}{2}$ a., mint and very rare	1	4	5
1887, $1\frac{1}{2}$ a. ; and 1903, Service, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., both mint, and varieties II for H	2	0	5
The valuable Collection, mostly mint, and including the 2, 3 and 5 rupees	77	5	10
1 rupee, S. G. 138, mint	1	1	14
Puttialla, 1884 set, $\frac{1}{2}$ a. to 1 rupee, mint	6	3	0
4a. with overprint in red and in black, mint	1	6	15
AUTTIALLA error, 8a., mint and very scarce	1	5	5
Error PATIALA omitted, in mint pair, 1a., S. G. 51	2	2	18
Ditto, ditto, 4a., S. G. 52, used on piece with one other	2	3	5
Service, 1a., S. G. 104, very fine and scarce	1	4	0
1a., S. G. 105, very fine and scarce	1	2	0
1a., S. G. 106, very fine and scarce	1	3	0
A T error, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., mint, S. G. 110	1	0	19
1a., Service twice, once inverted, S. G. 118a.	1	2	0
AUT error, 1a., used and very fine, S. G. 119	1	1	0
Patiala State, Service inverted, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., 1a., and S. G. 134-6	3	3	0

Mosul

OME more interesting novelties have recently appeared. Collectors must have noticed that every value of the Mosul set displays a horn-like figure on a circle in white with microscopic characters below and above it. The scroll above the horn towards the right has hitherto been uniform in size in all values. The one anna and $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas are now seen with the upper scroll very much smaller than before.

The 3a., 1st issue and 8a values are sold out.

Postmasters have received orders to only sell at the window for postal purposes. But orders of this nature can usually be evaded.

JNO GODINHO.

Messrs. Plumridge & Co., Philatelic Auctioneers.

Mr. W. T. Wilson sends us this month the prices realised at auction by Messrs. Plumridge & Co. for the Indian section of a fine colonial collection. Mr. Wilson informs us that he has secured the well-known collections of the late Colonel Hancock (Afghanistan and Cashmere) and that Messrs. Plumridge & Co. will offer these at auction in March next. These collections were built up by Colonel Hancock with immense labour and arranged with fine philatelic discrimination. They won first prizes at many exhibitions. These stamps will doubtless appeal to many of our readers. To meet their convenience, Mr. Godinho has very kindly written for 50 copies of the catalogue, and he will forward them on receipt to any members applying to him for copies. Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s advertisement appears in our advertisement columns.

The partners in this firm are Messrs. Hadlow and Telfer, both well-known in the philatelic world. Mr. Telfer, Associate of the Auctioneers Institute, joined Messrs. Plumridge & Co. in 1902. He was for 10 years Honorary Secretary of the Stamp Trade Protection Association.

For many years, he managed the Stamp Collectors Fortnightly and he took over the business of Messrs. Plumridge & Co. in 1916.

Mr. Hadlow started stamp auctions as long ago as 1891. He was for a long period Chairman of the Stamp Trade Protection Association. Advice is offered by the firm free of charge as regards the disposal of collections and duplicates with estimate of auction value.

Advice is also proffered as to the value of lots offered. The firm thus lays itself out to give all the assistance in its power to collectors.

New Issues.

British Empire.

British Guiana—6c. and 24c. in new shades.

Seychelles—The “Postage and Revenue” series is now complete. The stamps are in shades differing entirely from the “Postage” issue.

Sikkim—1 anna, yellow, no watermark.

Turks and Caicos Island—3d. overprinted “WAR TAX.”

Foreign Countries.

Albania—A scarce provisional 1 gr. on 25 q. of 1914.

Estonia—A 5 marks value.

Lettonia—25 k. grey, Imp. on watermarked paper. 3, 10, 15, 20 35 and 50, k., p., 11½, no watermark.

Rodosto—Four provisionals by the Greeks on taking over control of this town on the sea of Marmora.

Extracts.

Persian “Official Imitations.”—“Mr. E. W. Arnold, of Watford, is good enough to point out that the so-called variety of the 1876 issue of Persia, recently described by Lieut-Col. Stewart in a brief note, will, on further investigation, be found to be nothing more nor less than one of the ‘official imitations’ of the issue in question. Mr. Arnold states that in his collection he has the 1, 2, 5, and 10 chahis, all of which show the ‘tie-pin’ and conform to the other details mentioned by Col. Stewart, while a further conspicuous difference is that a portion of the top of the fez which appears in the genuine stamps is completely hidden by the ornament in the ‘imitations.’

These ‘Official Imitations’ were printed in Paris in 1886 from new dies on white wove paper in sheets of 10, perforated 12 and 12½, and were ordered by M. Boital, who, at the time, was Postmaster in Teheran. At the same time a large quantity of ‘reprints,’ or what may be termed forgeries, of the 1875 lion issues was obtained. In all probability the reason for ordering these imitations was to satisfy the increasing demand among collectors.

Postmarks often appear on these stamps, but in a country like Persia where postal irregularities can easily be obtained for a very small amount of 'backsheesh,' it does not follow that stamps bearing genuine postmarks have ever been postally used."—*Stamp Collecting*.

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"I do not think anyone can go wrong with Armistice issues now, as the prices are not likely to fall any more—in fact, with an increasing demand apparent an upward tendency may now be the result. The past fortnight has seen the influx of many enemy war issues into London. From inquiries I have made it appears that there is a big demand for all the cheaper values and sets."—*Ibid.*

* * * * *

Sikkim.—“This Indian Feudatory State has at last issued a postage stamp, which is, of course, limited to its own confines in validity. The label is a square one, with the picture of one of the great Himalayan peaks and a huge tree, with inscriptions at top and bottom in English—‘SIKKIM STATE’ and ‘ONE ANNA’ respectively—and in Hindustani at the sides. This value, 1 anna, which is printed on unwatermarked paper in yellow, is the only one we have seen so far.”—*Ibid.*

* * * * *

A Plating Puzzle.—“An excellent ‘plating puzzle’ has been contrived by the enterprising Hon. Sec. of the City of London Philatelic Society, Mr. E. S. Davidson. It consists of about a hundred ‘stamps,’ each one of which has been intentionally varied in some more or less distinct manner, and most of the variations have been suggested by actual varieties recorded in stamp catalogues. The reconstruction of the plate from the pairs and strips supplied, including duplicates to provide for overlapping, may afford in some small measure (except that it deals with labels philatelically valueless) the same kind of satisfaction as that associated with the actual plating of genuine postage stamps. The puzzle will be sent on receipt of P. O. for 1s. 6d., addressed to Mr. E. S. Davidson, 15 West Heath Drive, London, N. W. 3. The net profits are to be handed over to the City of London Philatelic Society.”—*Ibid.*

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“According to an article in the ‘*Daily Express*’ all the stamps of Cook Island, Rarotonga, Niue, Aitutaki, &c., are now obsolete, having been superseded by a regular New Zealand issue.”—*Stamp Collecting*.

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Sham Dealers.—“While the ranks of legitimate dealers have received many new recruits since demobilisation set in, this has been accompanied by an epidemic of what may be termed ‘sham dealers’—barnacles who, for a more or less brief period, endeavour to obtain a precarious livelihood by purchasing stamps on one side of the street and selling them on the other. The method usually adopted is to pose as a collector endeavouring to buy, and after inspecting all the stock they can induce the dealer, or his assistant, to place before them, they leave the premises with a diminutive purchase plus as much information as they can retain as to the prices asked for stamps offered elsewhere. While most dealers know how to treat this class of customer after brief experience, others employ him as a ‘tout’ (of course on a commission basis) for the placing of surplus lines or to ascertain how so and so is off for stock. He is, of course, a chronic waster of his own and other people’s time, and would be far better employed in attending to his own business, which is seldom anything to do with stamps at all.”—*The Philatelic Magazine.*

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Cleaned Stamps.—“There appears to be another epidemic of cleaned or faked stamps just now. Many readers will at once say, and no doubt quite rightly, that these weeds are always to be found in the philatelic garden, but there are times when the faker is more active than usual. Perhaps like other trades there is a close season. The present productions are the high values of Straits, Ceylon, Nevis and Trinidad, the latter being the most dangerous. It is really surprising what a number of dealers are ready to take this rubbish, and even show it in their windows. Some of it may be bought in good faith, but the percentage must be very small. This class of stamp does a great deal of harm, for not only does it impose upon the unwary collector but also ruins the value of the genuinely used variety. A distinguished member of the Bench once pronounced the dictum that if there were no receivers there would be no thieves—the same is readily applicable in the present case.”—*Ibid.*

* * * * *

“*Greenbacks*”—“A new trial supply of C. A. large size yellow paper for British Colonial stamps has been made. The paper is of a distinct greenish shade, and like other papers from the new mill is harder and thinner than formerly used. As the paper is coated before use it is probable that the difference in shade will only be distinguishable at the back of the stamps.

The change if adopted for all new supplies will affect the 3d. and 5/- stamps of a number of colonies, these being the only values printed on yellow paper.”—*Ibid.*

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Afghanistan and Cashmere.

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co.

Have received instructions from the Executors of the late Col. Hancock to sell by auction in March his very extensive and valuable collections of the above Countries. They include most of the rarities. The "AFGHANS" are mostly on reconstructed sheets. Many are untorn and many in blocks and strips. These are of the 1871-72 issue. 6 shahi(4), 1 rupee (6). 1874-5 S. G. Type 16—Black (1), purple (2). 1875-6 Tablet issue—Black (25), purple (29), etc., etc., "CASHMERE." The Circular Stamps. There are over 100. "KASHMIR" 1866- $\frac{1}{2}$ a. black over 30 and several superb and on entire originals, a very exhaustive collection with many extremely rare shares and many on entire.

Write for Illustrated Catalogue, post free on application (by return mail please)

to the Auctioneers at their Offices and Sale Rooms,
61-62, Chancery Lane, London, W. C.

DATE OF SALE, MARCH 24th & 25th.

NOTE.—CLIENTS DESIRING A CATALOGUE OF THIS EXCEPTIONAL SALE, CAN OBTAIN ONE FREE OF CHARGE FROM

J. GODINHO, Esq., 15, Burrows Street, BOMBAY.

Kindly mention the "Philatelic Journal of India" when answering advertisements.

The Philatelic Journal of India.

Vol. XXIV, No. 2.

FEBRUARY.

[1920]

The Philatelic Society of India.

CHE following have joined the Philatelic Society of India:—

Lieut. A. E. Hopkins,
119th Battery,
27th Brigade,
R. F. A.;
Nowshera.

Proposed by—
Jno. Godinho, Esq.
Seconded by—
W. Renouf, Esq.

Capt. C. L. Pilkington,
2/128 Pioneers,
C/o
Messrs. Cox & Co.,
Bombay.

Proposed by—
Col. W. S. Meiklejohn.
Seconded by—
W. Renouf, Esq.

The 2 annas of 1865, British India, Imperforate.

WHAT appears to be a very great rarity has been brought to our notice by Mr. Gordon Jones—the 2 annas orange of 1865, watermark, imperforate, in superb used condition. The copy is accompanied by the certificate of the Expert Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society, dated November 18th, 1919, so that its genuiness is vouched for by the highest authority. It is curious that this variety has not been noticed by Hausburg. Although not included in Stanley Gibbons, it is, we understand, from Mr. Gordon Jones, catalogued by a French firm.

The stamp has been acquired by Dr. K. D. Cooper—an addition to the many gems in his collection of British India.

W. R.

Obituary.

Sir Henry McCallum, R.E., G.C.M.G.

A wire from London, dated the 26th of November, brought the sad news of the death of Sir Henry McCallum at the age of 67.

Sir Henry joined the Philatelic Society of India in 1908, when Governor of Ceylon. We regret, we know hardly anything regarding his philatelic activities.

Sir Henry was one of the most successful Governors of Ceylon, and the development of the Crown Colonies should present no difficulties if there were more administrators of his type. When he assumed charge of his office the island was in a state of political ferment and industrial stagnation.

His abilities were equal to the serious task confronting him. He realized how great were the resources of the Colony, and drafted a programme of railway construction and schemes for the improvement of the harbour of Colombo, and for the reformation of the educational system. The success he achieved in these complex operations is a lasting monument of his brilliant administration. He has left the impress of his genius in most of the Departments of the Colony. His death will be sincerely lamented in the Island.

Sir Henry McCallum passed into the Royal Military Academy first out of 52 cadets in 1871. From 1875-77 he was Private Secretary to the Governor of the Straits Settlements, Superintendent of Admiralty Works, Hong Kong and Singapore, 1877-79; Governor of Lagos, 1897-99, of Newfoundland, 1898-1901, A. D. C. to His Majesty, 1900-1 and Governor of Natal, 1901-7.

J. G.

Notes.

“**F**INISH THE JOB—BUY PEACE BONDS” appears as recent postal obliteration on letters from Australia.

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The Duveen stamp collection is offered for sale in America. Over £ 200,000 have been offered.

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The Portuguese India Philatelic Co. of India have sent for our inspection a vertical pair of the Mosul 1 anna with double overprint. The overprint is vertical, having the effect of slightly elongating the letters.

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The second issue of Yvert and Tellier-Champion's Catalogue for 1920 (the first one being quite exhausted) will be ready for sale by February 1st, price francs 12, 95, post free. The advance in price is due to the continued increase in the cost of paper and labour.

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It is announced in *Stamp Collecting* that an influential body of enthusiasts, backed by *Stamp Collecting*, has decided to institute an order of Philatelic Merit, to reward collectors or dealers who have rendered sterling services to philately.

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realistic enterprise is taking the form of special Christmas numbers. *Stamp Collecting* appears with a record number of nearly 100 pages !

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is necessary for us to warn our readers once more against the large numbers of high value Indian stamps used for telegraph purposes which are offered to collectors who buy them without knowing and without being told that they have not been used postally.

The telegraph cancellation with thick concentric rings inside the inner circle, and the letters G. T. D. at foot is to be seen clearly on most of these ! In our opinion they are quite worthless. Any one going to a Telegraph Office can see exactly the impression of the cancellation stamp issued to Telegraph Offices.

Despite repeated orders by the Inspector-General of Posts and Telegraphs, high values used on telegrams are apparently not defaced and destroyed. There seems to be a heavy traffic in these pirate stamps.

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We invite attention to enhanced rates for home advertisements, unfortunately necessitated by the prevailing exchange.

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British Indian Stamps Used Abroad.

CHAPTER II.—THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

In the year 1854, when stamps were first introduced in India, the Straits Settlements (comprising the sea-port towns of Singapore, Penang, and Malacca) were under the control of the Government of India. Their postal arrangements were according y under the Indian Post Office. The following extract from the "Rules for the Management of the Post Office Department", passed by the Governor-General of India in Council on August 12th, 1854, is of interest :—

"There shall be a Postmaster-General for each of the Presidencies of " Madras and Bombay, and two Postmasters-General for the Presidency of ' Bengal, namely, one for the North-Western and one for the Lower Provinces, " each of whom shall respectively exercise his functions in subordination to " the Director-General within such limits as may be determined by the said " Governor-General of India in Council. There shall be Post Offices at " such places throughout India and in the Settlements subordinate thereto as " the Governor-General of India in Council shall from time to time direct, " the duties of which shall be conducted by Postmasters or Deputy Post- " masters, who shall be subordinate to the Postmaster-General of their " respective Presidencies."

The Straits Settlements were among " the Settlements subordinate to the Government of India."

Information is not available as to when the Straits Settlements first came under the control of the Government of India. There were Post Offices in the Straits Settlements before 1854 and these were in the circle of the Postmaster-General, Bengal. In 1838, the President Councillor of Malacca is recorded as in charge of the post office there. In 1852, Singapore had an assistant postmaster on Rs. 250 per mensem, besides 2 clerks, 2 native sorters, 4 peons, 2 tindals for the boat, and 8 lascars. It is pleasing to learn that the salary of the assistant postmaster, Singapore, had risen to Rs. 280 in 1857.

In 1854 there were post offices at Malacca, Penang and Singapore. In 1861, when the Burma Circle was formed, these were transferred to the

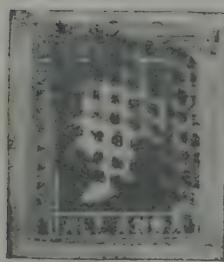
charge of the "Chief Inspector of Post Offices in Burmah." On the 1st April 1867, the Straits Settlements Administration was placed under the British Colonial Office, and the Straits Settlements began their independent postal existence with neat and artistic overprints on Indian Stamps.

The above historical account is based on materials very kindly supplied by the Hon'ble Mr. G. F. Clarke, I.C.S., Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs in India.

On the facts stated above, the claim of British Indian stamps used in the Straits Settlements in the period 1854—67 to the status of "used abroad" seems to be established. The Straits Settlements were merely Settlements subordinate to the Government of India. They were not a part of India. Indeed, the unsuitability of their connection with India, led to their transfer to the Colonial Office in 1867. Gibraltar, Malta, and other places in which British stamps are recognised as having been "used abroad" were similarly under the control of the British Government. Material is not available for an exact comparison. But, even if the Straits Settlements are not quite on all-fours with say, Gibraltar and Malta, they are sufficiently similar to furnish justification for the view which has been stated above.

It may perhaps be argued that British Indian stamps used in Burmah and Aden have equal claims with those used in the Straits Settlements. It is correct that Burmah and Aden are outside India proper. But, on the other hand, their cases are easily capable of differentiation from that of the Straits Settlements. While the Straits Settlements had to be separated from India for purposes of administrative convenience, Burmah and Aden have remained a part of the Indian Empire.

The first obliterations issued in October, 1854, were of the diamond of dots type; type 1 shown in the margin. This is a plain cancellation and it gives no clue to the post office of origin. Early in 1856, numbers were allotted as follows:—



Type 1.

147 Penang.

172 Singapore.

And these were retained till 1867 and even later. They occur frequently on the early Straits Settlements' issues. The Malacca postal number has still to be discovered.

The obliterations exhibiting these numbers were those prescribed for Bengal and Burmah and were as follows:—



Type 2.



Type 3.

Type 2 appeared early in 1856 and is the most common. It is distinctive. Type 3 is seen from 1863 to 1867, concurrently with type 2. Type 3 is as described. It consists of a diamond of 10 fine lines, the lines ascending from left to right and enclosing the office number. This is distinctive, for in the similar Bombay type of cancellation the lines ascend from right to left. There are a few isolated exceptions in Bombay where the lines ascend from left to right but, as far as is known, the numbers 147 and 172 are not to be found in the Bombay series with lines ascending from left to right.

It is probable that every Indian stamp issued down to 1866-7 is to be found used in Malacca, Penang and Singapore. However, a list is appended of those which have been brought to the notice of the writer:—

PENANG.

1854 issue— $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, blue.

1 anna, die I, red, and deep red.

4 annas, die II.

1856 issue— $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, blue.

1 anna, brown and deep brown.

2 annas, yellow-buff, yellow and orange.

8 annas, carmine.

1860 issue—8 pies, purple on white.

1865 issue—1 anna, deep brown and chocolate.

2 annas, orange.

SINGAPORE.

1854 issue— $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, blue and dark blue.

1 anna, die I red, and die II, red.

4 annas, die I and die II.

2 annas, pale, deep and dull green.

1855 issue—8 annas, on blue paper.

1856 issue—½ anna, blue.

1 anna, brown and deep brown.

2 annas, dull pink, yellow-buff, yellow and orange.

4 annas, black and grey black.

8 annas, carmine and pale carmine.

1860 issue—8 pies, on white paper, purple and mauve.

1865 issue—½ anna, blue.

1 anna, deep brown.

2 annas, yellow, orange and brown orange.

4 annas, green.

8 annas, carmine.

1866 issue—4 annas, deep green.

It is apparent that Penangs are scarcer than Singapores. The Singapore list includes almost every variety. It is to be noted that ½ anna, blues, are uncommon. The 4 annas, green, of 1856 has still to be found.

Specimens of the 1865 and 1866 issues are naturally rarer than those of the 1856 issue, as Straits Settlements' stamps were introduced in 1867.

CHAPTER IV.—ZANZIBAR.

The information reproduced below regarding the Zanzibar British Indian post office has been obtained from a Memorandum on the Foreign Post Service between India and Foreign Countries issued by the Director-General of the Post Office in India in 1884, and from a supplementary note kindly supplied by Mr. G. F. Clarke, Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs in India.

An Indian post office was opened at Zanzibar towards the close of 1868, but the Political Agent and Consul at Zanzibar did not favour its retention and it was, therefore, abolished early in 1869.

After this abolition, the need of postal facilities made itself felt very acutely at Zanzibar. In a report in 1874-5, it is stated that, notwithstanding the convergence at that place of three different mail services, there were no arrangements either for collecting or delivering correspondence and no knowledge of how correspondence for other places should be treated, or at what rates, or by what stamps it should be paid for. In these circumstances the Zanzibar authorities expressed a desire to have either a British or an Indian post office at Zanzibar and Mr. Monteath, a prominent official of the Indian Post Office, took up the subject in 1874-5. The British Post Office declined to establish a post office at

Zanzibar. The Indian Post Office, however, was prepared to consider the matter, and, eventually, provisional arrangements were made, Rs. 30 per mensem being allowed to the Zanzibar Agency and postage stamps being sold by a retail vendor under the ordinary rules as regards discount, etc. It was decided that the Zanzibar office should be regarded not as an Indian office, but as a foreign office having special relations with the Indian post offices, the speciality consisting in its using Indian stamps and receiving in return an allowance of Rs. 30 per mensem. It was provided that, to save trouble, all correspondence for Zanzibar would be pre-paid. The Indian post office was re-opened at Zanzibar on the 1st October, 1875.

The Political Agent anticipated that sales of postage stamps would aggregate Rs. 3,000 per annum.

The detailed rates of postage were as follows in 1875:—

From Zanzibar to places in India—

Letters not exceeding in weight $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	4 annas.
, 1 oz.	8 annas.

4 annas being added for every additional half ounce or fraction of half an ounce.

From Zanzibar to Aden—

Letters not exceeding in weight $\frac{1}{2}$ tola,	8 pies.
, 1 tola,	1 anna.
, 2 tolas,	2 annas.

and 1 anna for every additional tola.

Newspapers and proof-sheets not exceeding in weight 10 tolas, 1 anna.

Packets not exceeding in weight 20 tolas, 2 annas.

Packets not exceeding in weight 30 tolas, 3 annas, and 1 anna for every additional 10 tolas.

The rates from Zanzibar to other countries were the same as from Aden to other countries.

Postal work at Zanzibar expanded very rapidly. The arrangements were entrusted at first to Dr. Robb, attached to the British Consulate, and he made frequent representations for extra establishment. In June, 1877, Dr. Robb resigned his connection with the duties of the post office. The work was then handed over to a local Parsi shop-keeper, the arrangement proving most unsatisfactory. Eventually, in November 1878, a postmaster and delivery messenger were appointed at Zanzibar, paid by the Indian Post Office, and placed under the immediate supervision

and control of Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General. In August, 1878, the Zanzibar post office, which had hitherto been a sub-office, was made a disbursing head office.

In 1881, the postage rates between India and Zanzibar were reduced there have been periodical reductions since that date.

On the 10th November, 1885, when Zanzibar (which had in the meantime become a British Protectorate in 1890) organized a postal service of its own, the Indian post office was abolished. But even after Zanzibar had become a separate postal administration, it could not for some time secure a supply of its own stamps, and was at first allowed to take over the stock of Indian stamps then in the country at cost price and use them overprinted with the word "Zanzibar." When this stock was exhausted, the Indian administration continued till December, 1896 to supply Zanzibar with Indian postage stamps to be used as before.

Any stamps used in the brief period 1868-9 wou'd be of great interest. No information is available at present as regards this period, or as regards the cancellation mark used.

After 1875, cancellations are in types 6, 7 and 8 with a B. for Bombay. In type 6, the combination is B—20.

The square of bars is accompanied by a circular office mark 25 mm, diameter, with the words British P. O. Zanzibar in capitals parallel to the diameter.

The above cancellations were succeeded by ordinary name cancellations.

From 1875 to 1882 the stamps used were those with the elephant head watermark, and marked East India postage. The following have been seen:—

1865 issue:—

1 anna, shades, 2 annas, shades, 4 annas, dated 1866-7, shades, and Die I and Die II, 8 annas, rose, of 1868, $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, Die II of 1873, shades, and 6 annas and 12 annas of 1876. There only remain the 6 annas 8 pies of 1866 and the 9 pies, mauve of 1874 and 1 rupee, slate of 1874, to complete the list of possible stamps of the period.

With high postage rates to India, stamps from 8 annas downwards should be fairly plentiful.

All denominations are known of the issues 1882-1895, including the high values of 1895.

Among Service stamps, Nos. 532 and 533, 1 anna and 2 annas, On H.M.S., have been seen. The Service stamps are very much rarer than the ordinary.

CHAPTER V.

BRITISH INDIAN STAMPS USED IN FOREIGN POSSESSIONS IN INDIA.

A.—FRENCH POSSESSIONS.

For the following extremely interesting historical account of the relations of the Indian post office with French India the writer is once more under an obligation to the Honorable Mr. G. F. Clarke, Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs in India:—

1. "Our postal relations with French India extend over a period of more than a century. The French possessions in India comprise the Settlements of Pondicherry, Karikal, Mahé, Yanam and Chandernagore, but in addition to these there are other small and isolated plots of land called "Loges" owned by the French, situated at Masulipatam, Calicut, Surat, Cassimbazar, Jongdia, Dacca, Balasore, and Patna. There are no French post offices in these "Loges" and no indications of French authority, the very ownership of the several plots being in many cases undefined.

2. In the five Settlements referred to above, there are at present both French and British-Indian post offices. It is believed that there is not more than one French post office in each Settlement, but in many cases there are two or more British-Indian post offices. The functions of the French post offices are practically restricted to the receipt and despatch of letters and parcels from and to France or the French Colonies; on the other hand, the British-Indian post offices carry on money order and savings bank business, and, in addition to being the medium for all postal transactions with British India, they are used by the public of the Settlements as the sole agencies for the despatch, as well as the receipt and delivery, of letters for and from British India, the United Kingdom, British possessions, and other

countries. The number of these British-Indian post offices in French territory at the present time is 23 and they are situated as shown below.

Name of Settlement.	Name of Post Office.	Date of opening.
Pondicherry	Pondicherry H. O. ...	Not known. Was in existence in 1787.
	Ariyankuppam B. O. ...	1904
	Bahoor B. O. ...	1885
	Olugarai B. O. ...	1907
	Vallinur B. O. ...	1875
	Pondicherry Bazar S. O. ...	1902
	Pondicherry Ry. Stn. S. O. ...	1895
	Muthialpet B. O. ...	1885
Karikal	Mudaliarpet B. O. ...	1897
	Karikal S. O. ...	Not known. Was in existence in 1799.
	Kottuchari B. O. ...	1901
	Tirunalur B. O. ...	1898
	Puraiyar Road B. O. ...	1901
	Ambagarattur B. O. ...	1904
	Settur B. O. ...	1905
	Tirumalrayapatnam S. O. ...	1875
Mahé	Nedungaon B. O. ...	1903
	Mahe S. O. ...	1865
Yanam	Yanam S. O. ...	1876
	Chandernagore S. O. ...	Not known. Was in existence in 1809.
Chandernagore	Gondalpara S. O. ...	1906
	Lakhiganj S. O. ...	1909
	Temata B. O. ...	1891

3. It is not possible to trace the history of all these post offices, but there is ample evidence that they were opened with the consent of the French Administration.

4. The first British Indian post office opened in French territory appears to have been that at Pondicherry which was established about the year 1787, followed soon after by Karikal. Other British-Indian post offices were apparently opened after that date and during the negotiations which followed the treaty of Paris of 1814, it was suggested to the French Government at Pondicherry that an agreement should be come to between the two Governments for all Indian post offices throughout the

territories of the French to remain under the superintendence of the Postmaster-General at Fort St. George "at the charge and to the profit of the Government of India" until the French Government should have been enabled to establish their own post offices. These suggestions not only obtained the acquiescence of the French Government, but that Government desired that the arrangement should be on a permanent footing. The Madras Government was averse to making the arrangement permanent and deferred final decision. No change, however, was made and this condition of affairs continued till 1859 up to which time the French apparently had no postal establishment at Pondicherry beyond a letter-box in which articles for transmission by sea were received for despatch free of postage.

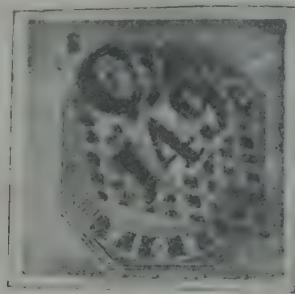
5. In 1859, the French Government apparently established a system of District Posts for the purpose of delivering letters within French limits, but there is no record of the exact scope of this establishment which, it appears, was finally abolished in 1862. Thereafter, so far as information is available, the delivery of letters which were received by the British-Indian post offices was effected through the agency of our own post-men.

6. In 1875, the Postmaster-General, Madras, proposed the opening of a British-Indian post office at Vallinur, a French possession dependent on Pondicherry, and, under instructions from the Madras Government, a reference was made to the Government of Pondicherry which gave its full consent to the opening of the British-Indian post office. It may be taken, therefore, that all the British-Indian post offices opened in the Madras Presidency came into existence under conditions in which French acquiescence was either express or assumed.

7. There is less information as regards Bengal in which we have the Chandernagore sub-post office, the Gondalpara and Lakhiganj sub-offices and the Temata branch office, all within an area of 3 square miles, but even here the consent of the French Administration is beyond doubt, inasmuch as that Administration contributes the sum of Rs. 25 a month as house-rent for the Chandernagore sub-office. "

Except as regards Pondicherry, there is very little information available at present as regards the cancellations by which British Indian stamps used in French possessions may be identified. It is doubtful whether it has ever struck anyone that these have a status as used abroad. But their status is absolutely clear. Now that attention has been directed to the matter, it is likely that the necessary data will soon be brought to light.

I. Pondicherry.—A British post office is shown as located at Pondicherry in the list of post offices in Madras issued in 1854. At first, an obliterator in type 1, the plain diamond of dots, was used at Pondicherry. This was superseded in 1856, when office numbers were introduced, by a Madras Circle obliterator in type 9.



Type 9.

The number allotted to Pondicherry was 111. This form of obliterator was in turn superseded in about the year 1863 by type 5, showing the same number 111. Obliterators in types 6, 7 and 8 were used between 1873 and 1884, the letter M for Madras replacing the letter B. After 1884, the cancellation shows the name of the post office.

Specimens of stamps used at Pondicherry are fairly plentiful. Of the offices subordinate to Pondicherry, Vallinur which was opened in 1875 should have obliterations in types 6, 7 and 8 in the period 1875-84. After 1884, name cancellations were used in all post offices in India.

II. Karikal.—Karikal was subordinate to the Tanjore post office in 1854. Its number is not known at present. The types will be similar to those used at Pondicherry.

The same remarks apply to Tirumalrayapatnam as to Vallinur.

III. Mahe.—This should have an office number in type 5 in 1865, followed by types 6, 7 and 8 in the period 1875-84. This office is in the Madras Circle, Mahe being on the West Coast of India.

IV. Yanam.—Yanam should show obliterations in types 6, 7 and 8 between 1875 and 1884. This office also is in the Madras Circle. Yanam is at the mouth of the Godavari.

V. Chandernagore.—This office was subordinate to the Hooghly post office in the Province of Bengal in 1854. It should show cancellations in types 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8 prior to 1884.

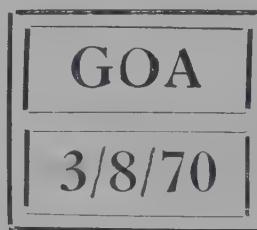
It should be easy to obtain the current issues used in the five French settlements. As regards the early issues, the first step is to rescue the office numbers from oblivion.

B. PORTUGUESE POSSESSIONS.

There were no British Indian post offices in the Portuguese possessions in India, Goa, Dīn and Damaun, but British Indian stamps were used in Portuguese India down to 1877 under the interesting circumstances described in the following account of the postal service between British and Portuguese India, which has been kindly furnished by Mr. Jno. Godinho, one of the leading authorities on the stamps of Portuguese India.

"A regular postal service by land between Goa and British India was established by agreement of the Governments concerned on July 1st, 1822. Exchanges were effected at Belgaum and Malwan. Letters for the Madras Presidency were sent *via* Belgaum, while letters for the North were taken to Malwan. Postal charges were paid in cash at the office of despatch, or, if the letter was bearing, the charges were collected at the delivery office. According to the postal tariff in force before 1854, a letter of ordinary weight cost half a xerafim (150 reis), equal to 3 annas, from Goa to Belgaum, and 11 annas (495 reis) from Belgaum to Bombay.

From the introduction of stamps in British India in 1854, down to 1871, when the first Portuguese Indian issue of stamps appeared, the following system obtained for letters despatched from Portuguese India to British India. The Portuguese India share of the postage on a letter posted, say, at Goa, was realised in cash, and the letter was then franked with a stamp as below as a mark of payment.



The outer rectangle is 27 mm. by 29 mm. in specimens seen. The ink varies in colour.

The British share of the postage was represented by Indian stamps applied to the letter. These stamps were obliterated by the *delivery* office in British India. It follows that these stamps can only be identified if on original cover.

A governmental decree of the 12th August, 1871 sanctioned the issue of the first postage stamps for Portuguese India. But it was only in 1877 that a convention was effected with British India by ~~which~~ ^{was} been two countries agreed to accept one another's postage stamps: ~~on~~ ^{between} 1871 and 1877, letters between Portuguese India and British India had

to be franked with the stamps of both countries. It should be remarked that there were no facilities for the purchase of British stamps in Portuguese India or of Portuguese stamps in British India. This must have occasioned constant inconvenience. Regular correspondents met this by ordinarily keeping one another supplied with the necessary stamps.

British Indian stamps on letters from places in Portuguese India between 1871 and 1877 were cancelled by the Portuguese post office. The obliteration is a large ellipse formed by straight lines parallel to the short axis, with a number or letter inset. Numbers seen are 1, 2, 4 and 5, while the letters J and K have also been met with. The ellipse is roughly 28 mm. by 22 mm."

The fine point arises whether British Indian stamps used on letters from Portuguese India in the circumstances described above have a just claim to be classed as used-abroads? There were no British post offices in Portuguese India, and the British Indian stamps paid Indian postage and not Portuguese postage.

It may be argued that a British Indian stamp came into use only when the letter which it franked crossed the frontier. But it may also be contended on the other side that it was necessary to affix the British Indian stamp before posting the letter in Portuguese India, and that it was therefore *used* in Portuguese India. The Portuguese decree of the 12th August 1871 runs as follows:—

"No letters, newspapers or other correspondence, which have to pass through the territory of British India, can be sent without having British stamps of amount corresponding to their weight besides the necessary Portuguese stamps."

The stamps under discussion are not on quite the same footing as stamps described under other heads, but we think that they have a claim to be included as used-abroads. They are unique and attractive items which a specialist in India will justly covet and prize, and which will take some getting.

CHAPTER VI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Under the head Miscellaneous should be chronicled the ½ anna, blue, of 1865 with the cancellation B. 53 for the Mauritius Naval Station, a type ½ annas 8 pies with the cancellation A. 83 for the Pacific Naval Station. The presumption is probably correct that British stamps were present for franking purposes at these Naval Stations and that these two

Indian stamps escaped the notice of a not over vigilant or hypercritical postal official. On the other hand, it is possible that Indian stamps may have been used when stocks of English stamps had run out.

Instances of "fluked abroads" are common. By these are meant stamps which have passed through a foreign post office without authority, simply because the post office has been too busy or too lax to notice the mistake. Such stamps have no appreciable interest or value. The foreign postmark may sometimes be due to a letter arriving in the delivery country without cancellation, and to the cancellation being applied in that country.

W. R.

The 4 annas of 1854.

Mr. E. D. Puzey has drawn attention to certain additional short lines or short broken lines in red or dark blue which are to be seen on the 4 annas of 1854. He has also kindly sent specimens.

The most striking example is a strong line in dark blue about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. long sloping back above the crown, and taking off from the crest of the crown. The stamp is die I.

Two stamps show a faint broken line in dark blue about 3 mm. long at the point of the bust. This line points to a point corresponding to 4 o'clock on the face of a watch. In another instance a faint short line in dark blue is about $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. below the point of the bust. In another instance, a very faint broken line in dark blue, about 3 mm. long, takes off from the crest of the crown, pointing towards 8 o'clock. All these are in die II.

In an example in die II there are faint traces in red broken lines of an inner circle $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. inside the beaded circle. These traces are visible between 3 and 7 o'clock, and again between 9 and 11 o'clock. At 7 o'clock the line is quite strong for $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. In another example in die II, there are faint traces in red of an inner circle at the same distance inside the beaded circle. The traces are visible faintly between 4 and 5 o'clock, and there is a short strong line again at 7 o'clock but a shade higher than in the other stamp.

Mr. Puzey suggests that these may be guide marks. We are unable to account for them. The undoubted guide lines described in our November, 1919 number are strong vertical and horizontal straight lines forming a cross and between two stamps in about the centre of the sheet. The marks brought to notice by Mr. Puzey may perhaps be slips by the man who prepared the lithographic

stones. However, everything connected with the 1854 issue has a special interest.

We note from *Stamp Collecting* that Mr. A. J. Sefi has discovered about thirteen hitherto unchronicled re-touches in the 4 annas of 1854. We learn that Mr. Sefi has been accumulating material for studying this stamp for some years, and we hope that the results of his labours will be made available for philatelists interested in India.

W. R.

T. E. O.
Cilicie.

Whether the belligerent armies advanced or receded, the attention of philatelists has been concentrated on the impress laid on the face of stamps by the victorious party in the form of occupation stamps.

The conquest of the old Turkish Vilayet of Adana in Asia Minor was signalled by the French Administrator, Col. Bremond, by overprinting various Turkish labels, at first with the single word *Cilicie* and latterly *T. E. O. Cilicie* in various types. The initials *T. E. O.* represent *Territoires ennemis occupés* (occupied enemy territory).

I have seen recently most of those overprinted *T. E. O. Cilicie* in May, 1919. Most of these are in blocks of 20, that is five rows of four each. A fair number of these reveal errors and varieties, which up to this date, have not been, to the best of my knowledge chronicled in any philatelic Journal.

No 54, 5 paras on 2 paras, olive green, in Gibbon's priced Catalogue of War stamps. Besides the varieties noted by Gibbon's, viz., (a) *T. E. O.* omitted (b) "Cilicie omitted, the following also occur:—

(c). Full stop at the foot of O. In all stamps, the full stops are on a uniform level in line of the letters *T. E. O.*, a little above the foot, except in the case noted.

Gibbon's No 56, 1 piastre, bright blue, pictorial issue of 1913, overprinted *T. E. O. Cilicie* in dull red ink. In blocks of 20, four vertical and five horizontal rows, the second stamp in the second row, and the first stamp in the fifth row, the full stop is at the foot of the letter O.

Gibbon's No 57, 20 para blue, Postal Jubilee issue, in blocks of 20, in rows of five horizontal and four vertical, the following varieties are conspicuous.

- (a). Full stop at the foot of O. in the second stamp first row.
- (b). Ditto in the last stamp of the fifth row.

(c). A very curious variety is the second stamp in the fifth row. In this the letters *ilici* of Cilicie, are so broken as to be represented by a group of dots, resembling in a way the dots we see scattered in Turkish inscriptions or devices.

Gibbon's No 59. In a block of 20, *i.e.* 4×5 , the full stop at the foot of O. is in the second stamp of the second and fifth rows.

Gibbon's No 66 overprinted in dull blue ink. In a block of 20, *i.e.*, 5×4 the fifth stamp in the second row has two dots after O. one above the other, with a fair intervening blank space.

Gibbon's No 62, block of 20, that is four horizontal and five vertical rows, has the following varieties :—

(a). Full stop at the foot of O. in the second stamp of the second row and second stamp of the fifth row.

(b). No full stop after O. in the second stamp of the second and the first stamp of the fifth row.

(c). *ilici* broken into dots in the second stamp of the fifth row.

(d). C of Cilicie out of alignment, that is below the other letters.

Commemorative stamp of 1916, the 10 paras rose overprinted T. E. O. Cilicie in black, and in blue with a star of five rays and crescent. In block of 25, dot below O. in the second stamp first row.

Ilicie broken up into dots in the second stamp of the fifth row. In some sheets the impression of the star and crescent is clearly visible at the back.

Bombay, 17th Jany., 1920.

JNO. GODINHO.

Sikkim.

A Philatelic news-monger sent to a home paper the announcement, that the Indian Feudatory State of Sikkim had issued a postage stamp of 1 anna.

The news was transferred back to India with requests for supplies. To us it was a matter for surprise. We are naturally ambitious to give the first reliable intimation of any philatelic novelty in the East, and particularly in India.

Enquiries have, however, elicited the information we give below.

The Sikkim Government have issued stamps of the following denominations and colors :—

One anna stamp,	30	in a sheet,	color	yellow
Eight annas	"	"	"	indigo
One Rupee	"	"	"	red
Five Rupee	"	"	"	dark red.

The above are all revenue and *not* postage stamps.

I am indebted for the above information to our member Lieut.-Col. G. R. Row.

In Europe the 1 anna stamp has already been chronicled as a postage stamp.

JNO. GODINHO.

Nabha State.

An error.

We have been shown a new error in this State, hitherto unchronicled. It is the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna Edward, India Postage, Gibbon's No. 126. The overprint reads thus.

SERVICE
NABHA
ST TE

The A in State has entirely failed to print.

J. G.

Persia.

Mr. C. Griffiths of Calcutta has kindly sent stamps for our inspection illustrating the following varieties in Persian stamps overprinted in the following type:—

Provisoire.
1919
3 chahis.

3

ch.

with values in Persian also in the top corners.

(a) 1 ch. (i). Three different shades of yellow, running into yellow-buff.

- (ii). 1 missing over the letters ch. (already reported).
 (b) 3ch. (i). Two slight shades of green.
 (ii). Second 1 short in 1919.
 (c) 5ch. Minor variety in 5 of 5 chahis..
 (d) 6ch. Two very marked shades of violet.
 (e) 12ch. Two very marked shades of blue.

W. R.

Early Indian Cancellations.

New number

Type 8.

13 Damaun (Bombay) 1874.

It is most probable that the number for Damaun in type 4 was also 13.

W. R.

New Issues.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Australia.—The 4d. in bright orange.

Gibraltar.—The 2d. in a deep shade of grey. This new shade appears also in Malta and in other colonies.

I. E. F..—½ anna in pearl-grey, and 8 annas in pale purple.

New Zealand.—A Victory set of six stamps, between ½d. and 1sh., with bold and effective designs. Typographed on paper water-marked "N. Z." and star, Perf. 14.

Rhodesia.—The 1d. in brick-red.

Foreign Countries.

Batoum.—The following provisionals on the Russian Imperial Stamps of 1909—10r, on 1k and on 3k., imp., and on 5k. and 10k., on 7k., perf.

Belgium.—King Albert with helmet on the following values—15c, 1, 2 and 5 francs.

Czecho Slovakia.—A special set of 6 on the anniversary of the *coup d'état* (October 28th). On sale, only for 5 days! The permanent type is expected to appear shortly!

Fiume.—Two surcharges, 5c. on 25c., and 10c. on 45c.

Holland.—Two new stamps. 4½c., pale mauve and 7c., Postage Due, blue.

Extracts.

"New issues of stamps are all very nice and help our hobby along, but there is a touch of overdoing things in this direction in some of the new States. If Poland and some of these new districts go on as they have started, we shall have to devote an entire album to each year's issue of this and that State."—*Stamp Collecting.*

* * * * *

New Europe.—“It will be noticed that we have made many reductions in the prices of these stamps this month. The reason is twofold, firstly because of the heavy fall in the rates of exchange for marks, krones and roubles, and secondly because of the re-opening of postal communication, so that we can now buy many of these stamps direct from our pre-war correspondents at prices far below what we have hitherto been obliged to pay to dealers in neutral countries. Even now importing direct is very risky, as registered letters have to be posted in open envelopes for examination and the insurance system is suspended. Prices are hardly likely to fall any further, on the contrary they must advance with any rise in exchange rates. In our opinion the present is a very favourable time to buy these interesting and historical issues.”—*Whitfield, King and Co's. Monthly List.*

* * * * *

Syria and Asia Minor.—“It is quite a long time since we ventured to forecast possible drastic changes in the postal administration of Palestine, in view of French interests, and it is now reported from Paris that Syria is to be provided with a separate postage stamp issue under French administration. Such an issue was projected more than twelve months ago, but abandoned for political reasons. Meanwhile, in Cilicia, the provisional stamps issued by the French military authorities have been replaced by those of the Occupied Enemy Territory Administration, inscribed ‘E. E. F. Postage.’”—*Stamp Collecting.*

* * * * *



Correspondence.

THE EDITOR,

Philatelic Journal of India.

I enclose details of some prices realised at auction by Messrs. Plumridge & Co., last October, with Gibbon's prices in 1899 and 1919 for comparison where possible.

		Gibbon	Gibbon	
		1899.	1919.	
		£ s.	£ s.	£ s.
<i>Barbados</i> .—1d. on half 5 s.	...	7 5	8 0	14 0
1d. on half 5 p.				
Small 1 and D	...	11 0	8 0	18 0
½d. on 4 double surcharge	...	13 0	...	14 0
<i>British Guiana</i> .—1850 12c. deep blue	...	14 0	12 0	30 0
<i>Ceylon</i> .—5d. imperf. unused	...	6 10	2 0	10 0
2s. blue close at top	...	6 5	6 10	20 0
8d. brown clear cut perf.	...	10 10	4 15	...
2s. blue rough perf.	...	4 15	2 5	6 0
<i>C. C.</i> .—2d. yellow green, very fine	...	4 5	2 10	6 0
5d. red-brown mint	...	4 10	6 0	5 0
2d. on 50c. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ unused	...	4 10	7 10	9 0
5c. on 15c. revenue omitted unused	...	4 15	1 10	0
<i>Gold Coast</i> .—£1 green and red unused	...	12 10	5 10	18 0
<i>Great Britain</i> .—2s. red-brown unused	...	6 0	7 0	10 0
£1 brown lilac anchor	...	6 0	...	12
£5 orange	...	4 15	2 0	6 0
£1 wmk. Crown unused	...	7 0	4 0	12 0
£1 wmk. orbs	...	4 10	0 15	6 10
1d. V. R. unused	...	13 0	15 0	12 0
<i>India</i> .—½d. red $9\frac{1}{2}$ arches	...	7 10	7 0	10 0
2 as. blue double print	...	3 10	...	5 0
Service 6 as. 8 p. mint	...	3 5	6 0	6 0

		£	s.	£	s.	£	s.
		1899.	1919.				
<i>Chamba</i> —Chamba 1a. unused		...	3 5	...		6 0	
Service Chamba 1a. mint		...	3 3	...		5 0	
Do. 2 as. mint		...	5 5	...		10 0	
<i>Gwalior</i> —Gwalior $\frac{1}{2}$ a. mint		...	2 2	...		5 0	
Do. $2\frac{1}{2}$ as. mint		...	9 10	...		25 0	
3 pies grey		...	1 14	...		3 0	
Service 4as. mint		...	4 0	...		7 10	
<i>Jhind</i> —1885, set of six mint		...	6 0	5 9		11 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Jeend set of six		...	4 10	5 15		9 5	
Jhind in red set of 4		...	2 15	...		7 0	
2 rupees mint		...	2 0	1 5		3 0	
3 "		...	4 4	1 15		6 0	
5 "		...	4 15	4 0		7 0	
<i>Nabha</i> —1885, set of six mint		...	6 0	4 15		10 15	
<i>Patiala</i> —1884 set of six mint		...	3 0	2 12		8 5	
Autialla 8as.		...	5 5	7 6		...	
<i>Lagos</i> —2/6 Olive mint		...	6 15	5 5		9 0	
5/ blue mint		...	10 0	7 10		12 0	
10 / purple brown mint		...	21 0	14 0		25 0	

N. C. MACLEOD,
23rd December 1919.

Review

British War Stamps. A retrospect by Douglas B. Armstrong.
Issued by R. W. Gosse, the London Stamp Club, 89 Farringdon Street, London, E. C. 4. Price 6d.—Mr. Armstrong does not claim to do more than touch upon the popular and general aspect of British War Stamps, ignoring their purely philatelic and technical interest. He promises a more detailed survey now in the Press. The booklet gives a very interesting account of each issue and of the circumstances under which it appeared, and will be appreciated by the immense number of collectors of War Stamps.

Postage Stamps of the Great War and after, 1914—1919. A descriptive catalogue and guide for collectors, profusely illustrated. Price 2sh. net. Compiled and edited by Douglas B. Armstrong. Published by D. Field, 4 and 5 the Royal Arcade, Old Bond Street, London, W. 1.—Mr. Field has built up a great reputation in regard to war stamps and

this; the first edition of his catalogue is the most complete of all catalogues of this kind. Each issue is prefaced by a brief note explaining the circumstances of its appearance. A feature of the catalogue is the number of items priced, and the very complete lists of numbers issued. We are pleased to see that Mafias, Salonicas and Long Islands are not recognised, as authorised issues by Mr. Field. Enemy country issues are omitted but, notwithstanding, the catalogue runs to 103 pages of small print. A second edition, price 2/6, is promised early in the year.

Stanley Gibbons' Priced Catalogue of War Stamps. Issued by the Allies and Neutral Countries, including the Stamps of the Armistice Fifteenth Edition. Price 1/- post free.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons have placed collectors under an obligation by the production of their periodical catalogue of war stamps. They express the hope that this edition will last until enough is known about those very interesting issues to enable fairly stable lists to be transferred to their correct places in Parts I and II of the large catalogue. Messrs. Gibbons rightly point out the great difficulty in pricing some of the Armistice issues, and in some instances of determining their status. They claim that their prediction that war stamps would prove a sound investment has been more than fulfilled.

The Fascination of Stamp Collecting by Stanley Phillips, Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, W. C. 2., London.—This small volume is written for those "who do not collect stamps, or for those who do collect, but who do not appreciate fully the varied interest of the hobby which is needed if its fullest pleasures are to be enjoyed." In eleven chapters Mr. Phillips discussed the attractions of philately, the artistic and historical interest of stamps, stamp finds and the speculative side of the hobby. If there are still a few persons who have held out against the subtle attractions of philately during the war, their numbers promise to be reduced materially if they can be induced to venture into Mr. Phillips' book.

Bright & Son's Priced Catalogue of War and Armistice Stamps, Eighth edition. Price 1/- post free.—Messrs. Bright & Son, 164 Strand W. C., 2 London, Messrs. Bright include over 200 illustrations and a special feature is a complete list of the tridents of Ukraine which occupy seven pages and include over 600 different varieties, most of which are priced. A very valuable guide to all interested in these new issues.



The Philatelic Journal of India.

Vol. XXIV, No. 3.

MARCH.

[1920.]

The Philatelic Society of India.

CHE following have joined the Philatelic Society of India:—

E. Banks, Esq.,

C/o

Finlay, Fleming & Co.,

P. O. Box No. 181,

Rangoon.

Lieut. R. W. A. Wallace, Esq.,

1/50 Kumaon Rifles,

Almora.

Proposed by—

R. J. Swinhoe, Esq.

Seconded by—

Jno. Godinho, Esq.

Proposed by—

Rev. W. A. H. Parker.

Seconded by—

Jno. Codinho, Esq.

Notes.

Stamp Collecting draws attention to the cornering of new issues of Cook Islands, Rarotongas and Pacific Islands stamps by certain speculators in New Zealand. In some recent cases, they have bought up practically the whole issue!

* * * * *

A monumental work is in course of preparation on U. S. postmarks. The illustrations will run into thousands as there were some 60,000 town and city cancellations employed before Government introduced a mechanical cancelling device.

* * * * *

In a well reasoned article in *Stamp Collecting* Mr. Stanley Phillips discusses the question of the compilation of a standard catalogue. He points out that whatever the defects of trade catalogues may be, it is very

apparent that the compilers of a standard catalogue would be faced with a host of difficulties from the start. It is doubtful whether they would make a better job of it than the dealers, and it is certain that the standard catalogue would never be kept up to date. From the financial point of view the project seems to be quite impracticable. The cost of illustration would be enormous. A large capital would be needed to finance the venture, and where is this to come from? We question the correctness of the allegation that existing catalogues bring in little or nothing to their proprietors. We should be surprised to hear that the leading catalogues are not sources of great profit. We however agree with the conclusion that a standard catalogue as an entirely new work is impossible of realisation. We must look to healthy competition to remedy any defects in existing catalogues.

* * * * *

The seventh Philatelic Congress of Great Britain and Ireland will take place at Newcastle on Tyne on Tuesday, May 25th and three following days. Mr. E. D. Bacon has accepted the Chairmanship of the Permanent Committee.

* * * * *

Members of the Dum-Dum Exchange Club will be sorry to hear of the untimely death from typhoid of Mr. C. Soobrahmonee Iyer, the senior partner of the stamp firm of that name at Attangal, Travancore. Mr. Iyer was a regular contributor of interesting sheets of Indian stamps. We learn that the business of the firm will be conducted as before by his brothers in the same name.

* * * * *

The Honorary Secretary of the Dum-Dum Exchange Club informs us that he has decided to continue the pricing of stamps in sterling, the large majority of the members being in favour of this. He will convert liabilities and credits into rupees at the approximate rate ruling during the circulation of the packet.

* * * * *

In reviewing a book on the stamps of Mecca by the Survey of Egypt Office, Mr. E. D. Bacon notes that he has not seen a copy of the 1/4 p. perforated 10. Two single-line machines were used, one with a gauge of 12, and the other with a gauge of 10, but no record was kept at the time of the separate quantities perforated by the different machines. H. M. the King possesses an unchronicled variety in the shape of a complete sheet of the 1/2 p. with compound perforation 12 by 10.

* * * * *

Our thanks are due to Mr. F. G. Wilson, the son of our esteemed representative in England, Mr. W. T. Wilson, for a welcome note on the Leicester stamp exhibition, which appears in another column.

* * * * *

The book on used-abroads is being distributed free to all members of the Society. It is hoped that it will give an impetus to the cult of Indian used-abroads. The historical portions, thanks very largely to the good offices of the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs, are complete, and these indicate very clearly whence certain rarities may be forthcoming. All that remains to be done is to ascertain a few office numbers. As regards two of these, a guess is hazarded from the study of the lists of post offices in 1854 and of numbers already known. It is probable that the number of Karrical (French possession) in the Madras C and other series will prove to be 146. Similarly, it seems likely that the number of Chandernagore in the Bengal B and other series is 86. This guess is put forward for what it may be worth.

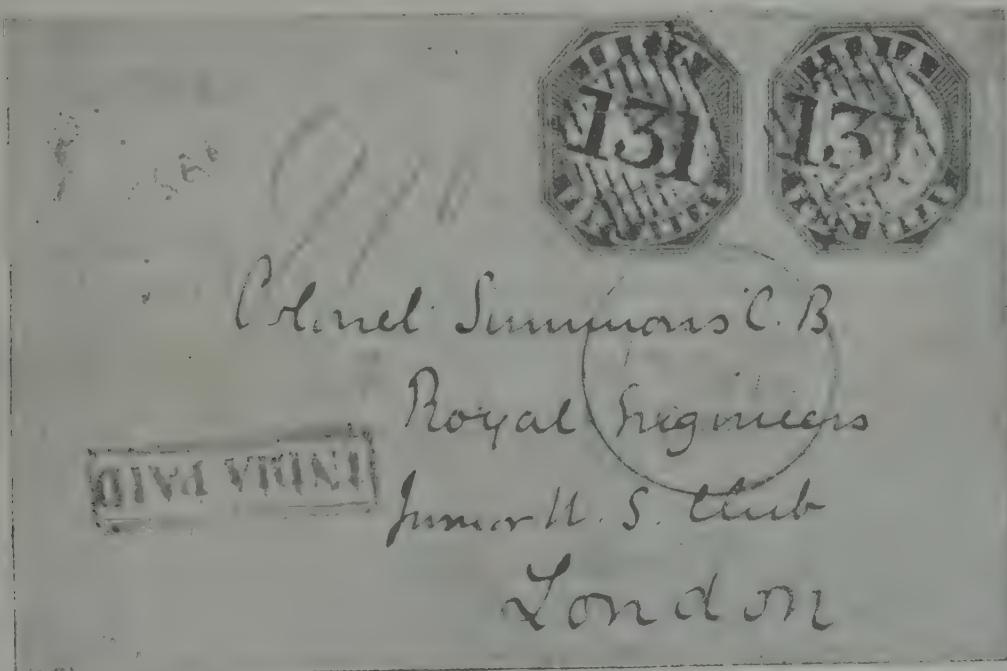
Confirmation is of course most essential. But in the meanwhile, these numbers, or numbers adjacent to them, are worth keeping until the point is cleared.

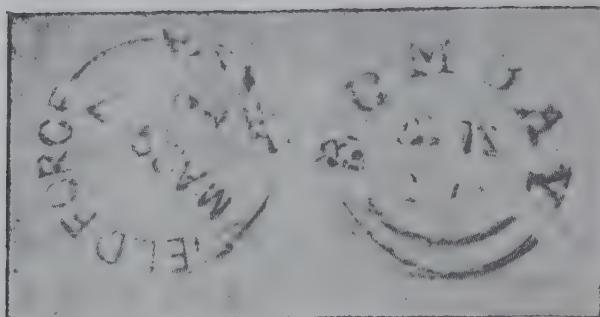
* * * * *

A rare entire of the Persian Field Force, 1857.

—

WE illustrate below a rare entire of the Persian Field Force, 1857, in the possession of Mr. C. Griffiths, dealer, of 46, Police Hospital Road, Entally, Calcutta. Entires, and even stamps, relating to this Expeditionary Force are extremely scarce, but this entire with a pair of 4 annas of 1854, in splendid condition, except for slight trimming at the corners, is probably unique.





The number allotted to the Force was 131 in the Bombay series. The office marks on the reverse show clearly the words Field Force Persia and date, and also the Bombay office mark.

Many other valuable pieces have passed through Mr. Griffith's hands, including the horizontal strip of eight of the 1 anna of 1854, pointed bust, now in the collection of Dr. Cooper, and illustrated in these columns about two years ago.

The history of Indian stamps used in war has still to be written. Information has been published in this Journal regarding the Persia Field Force and Abyssinia Field Force and some other campaigns. But, unfortunately practically nothing has come to hand regarding the Mutiny and Afghan campaigns and many others. It is to be hoped that collectors of Indian stamps will look out for entires illustrating these campaigns and bring them to notice. There must be abundant material in the correspondence of officers who served in the various campaigns.

W. R.



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Early dates of use of the Indian 1854 issue.

We have much pleasure in publishing two letters kindly sent by Mr. D. C. Gray on the above subject, which throw further light on the matter discussed.

DEAR SIR,

3 December, 1919.

I can revise in several cases the list of early dates of the 1854 issue of India contributed by Dr. K. D. Cooper to the November number of your paper (p. 192) as follows:—

DENOMINATION.	DR. COOPER'S EARLIEST DATE.	REVISED EARLY DATE.	REMARKS.
$\frac{1}{2}$ anna Die I.	9 October 1854.	1 October 1854.	First legal day of use.
$\frac{1}{2}$ anna Die II.	—	11 April 1856.	Greenish blue colour.
1 anna Die I.	5 October 1854.	5 October 1854.	Letter dated 4-10-1854.
1 anna Die II.	28 November 1854.	—	
1 anna Die III.	October 1856.	1 August 1856.	Postmark B. 38.
2 annas	29 December 1854.	13 November 1854.	Issued 3 November Madras. 1854, at Madras and 23 November
4 annas	29 December 1854.	—	1854, at Bombay.

All the early dates above mentioned in the last column but one are taken from specimens on the original letter (or part letter) in my collection.

With regard to the first case, $\frac{1}{2}$ anna used on letter on the first legal day of issue, I have sent an account already to you.

With regard to the 1 anna Die III stamp this is generally met with, in my experience, on letters dated in 1857. As the theory advanced

with regard to this stamp has been issued only to the Calcutta Presidencies, may at first sight appear, it is not by the postmarks. All the used copies in my collection, numerous, both on and off letters, and practically all other

specimens of which I have a record, are cancelled with postmarks belonging to the two above mentioned districts, and not with those used by Bombay and its district offices. Further evidence on this point would be of considerable interest; as would also further dates of use of the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, Die II Stamp.

With regard to a late date of use of the 1854 issue stamps, I have a pair of 2 annas (emerald green) used with a perforated $\frac{1}{2}$ anna stamp on piece cancelled Bunnoo, 14 May, 1861.

With reference to your remarks on the 4 annas stamps that no dated pieces are known of the first two transfers, I suppose this refers to used specimens. There was in the "Masson" Collection an unused strip of four stamps with the bottom sheet margin showing the date October, 1854, being the first transfer.

I have several 4 annas stamps belonging to the close setting which show the guide line or cross. This probably occurred in the centre of the sheet; possibly, as you say, in connection with the 2nd transfer of this setting.

Yours faithfully,

D. C. GRAY,

18 December, 1919.

53, MONTAGU SQUARE,

HYDE PARK,

LONDON, W.

DEAR SIR,

Since sending you my letter of 3 December I happened to refer to the articles on the first issue of India written by the late Mr. C. S. F. Crofton for your paper.

It is stated by him (Vol. XII, p. 248, September 1908), that Bombay got none of the 1855 transfers of the 1 anna stamp, *i. e.* Die III. Dr. K. D. Cooper's theory that this stamp was only used in the Bengal (Calcutta) and Madras districts is thus confirmed.* No one can fail to admire and agree with most, if not all, of the various conclusions arrived at with regard to early Indian stamps by the late Mr. Crofton, whose extremely interesting articles, which are marked by extraordinary perspicuity and thoroughly sound reasoning, would hardly seem to have received as much attention as they deserve.

Yours fa

of our esteemed
ne note on the

* We have recently seen one copy with the Northern India conc. in. a
ppreciable number are found used on the Northern India Circle, the p
that the stamp may have been purchased in Bengal or Madras.—ED.

The 4 annas of 1854.

WE are informed by Dr. K. D. Cooper that he has seen a photograph of a block of four from the left hand top corner of a sheet of the first setting, wavy lines, from which it is apparent that the horizontal guide line is on the right hand margin of the second stamp of the second row in the sheet.

W. R.

The instance of this feature first shown by Dr. Cooper was in Die I. He now sends a copy of the first setting in Die II with the horizontal line to the left of the stamp. This is presumably third stamp in the second row. It is not clear as yet if there was a vertical cross line also.

The "Why and Wherefore" of Stamp Collecting.

This is the heading of the first Chapter in Mr. Stanley Phillips' booklet "The Fascination of Stamp Collecting," in which the justification of the hobby is ably discussed. The purport of the Chapter well deserves reproduction. Mr. Phillips begins as follows:—

"As the years roll by and life becomes more and more strenuous, some restful and interesting spare time occupation is increasingly necessary. The old adage that a change of work is as good as recreation has been carried a stage further by physicians, who insist that merely to *cease* work is not the ideal form of rest, at any rate for those whose daily occupation is mental. To leave an office at night will not clear a man's mind of business. He needs some equally absorbing interest to drive away all worries, to exercise his mind in different channels and to lift him out of the roots of habit.

Not only is this change of occupation necessary during the period of business life, but it is needed more than ever when business is finally put on one side and retirement brings days and weeks of spare time to be filled."

* * * * *

"As no one likes to feel that even spare time is being absolutely idle, the hobby or pastime chosen needs the recommendation that from it some profit or that in its pursuit something may be produced. The hope of gain may be necessary as a stimulus

No one hobby can satisfy the wishes of everyone, and so there are to-day a great number of different occupations which may be taken up. The object of these pages, however, is to show how the hobby of stamp collecting has gained favour so rapidly all over the world as a solace for spare moments. Briefly, the answer is its many-sided appeal. Other pastimes are suited to people of a particular turn of mind, while stamp collecting, though it does not pretend to appeal to all, attracts people of widely different temperaments."

Mr. Phillips considers that the instinct of the chase, with the added element of competition, supplies the root appeal in stamp collecting. "There are opportunities and prizes for all, and the common hobby becomes a link between old and young, rich and poor, and in many places oversteps the barriers of language and nationality."

With the appearance of societies and clubs the social side of philately has not been unimportant.

Mr. Phillips remarks that the educational value of philately in history and geography is considerable, "although it is possible that many who would have been interested in stamps have been repelled by too much insistence on this side of the question."

Knowledge is gained of paper making and of the various processes employed in the manufacture of stamps.

There is training in accurate observation and in the neat arrangement of a collection.

"It is perhaps putting a hobby on too low a plane when we speak of its financial side, but that too may be considered. If money is spent on amusement it is satisfactory to know that there is some hope of a return, and postage stamps bought with judgment are now recognised as a good investment. For those who like a flutter there are in addition, plenty of opportunities for speculation. So long as human nature is what it is, this aspect cannot fail to have its influence on the popularity of any hobby."

Yet, whether stamps are collected to gratify the instinct of the chase, for the interest of their designs, for their monetary value, or simply because in the world of stamps there is always some new thing, the pleasure derived is very great."

Philatelic Exhibition at Leicester.

HEARTY congratulations are due to the Leicester Philatelic Society and especially to the indefatigable Honorary Secretary Mr. T. B. Widdowson upon having organized the first Competitive Stamp Exhibition held in England since 1914.

The Exhibition occupied one large and two small Galleries in the fine Leicester Art Gallery. Needless to say they were well lighted and thoroughly suitable for a Stamp Exhibition. The Stamps were mounted in small handy frames, quite different to the cumbersome large sized ones, used at the early Exhibitions.

Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, President of the Manchester Philatelic Society, acted as judge.

The following is a brief description of some of the principal exhibits:—

CLASS I.—BRITISH EMPIRE. (EXCEPT GT. BRITAIN.)

E. E. Ainger. Cayman Islands.

A nice well arranged Collection of unused, used and a few original covers. An interesting item was a letter from Paymaster Commander W. R. Martin, R. N. stating that the first supply of Stamps was taken to Cayman Islands in H. M. S. Pallas and landed 19th February, 1901. They consisted of ½d. and 1d. Queen Stamps and were handed over to the Post Master.

J. Arnold. Cape of Good Hope.

A very fine lot of the popular triangular issues only, among which may be mentioned 1853 on blue, 1d. three blocks of 4, one of 3, and a pair, 4d. four pairs and one block of 4, 1855-58 on white, a block of four 1d. in deep shade on original cover, 4d. block of 8, 1½- yellow green, single and pair unused and 10 used singles, 1½- dark green, 2 pairs and one block of 4 unused. 1861 Provisionals five 1d. and a pair, ten 4d. and one on original cover. 1863-4 De la Rue Prints, some fine blocks including 1d. three of 4, and one of 8, 4d. used, three blocks of four, 4d. unused, blocks of 9, 4 and 8.

W. Oakley. Falkland Islands.

This choice Collection obtained the Gold Medal and was beautifully worked out and very well written up. The 2 "Franks" used on entire originals. Die Proofs of the 2d. value in colours submitted to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, by Messrs. Bradbury Wilkinson and Co., the 2d.

CLASS 5.

Leicester and Notts. Societies only.

Great Britain. (3 Sections—early, intermediate and modern issues).

F. B. Cooper. (Silver and Bronze Medals).

A very well arranged and attractive exhibit, all the Stamps being in extremely good condition and with a very fine lot of the modern Georgian varieties, written up and described in an admirable manner. Examples of the present Great Britain Stamps showing Crown omitted from the wmk. also with the lower limb to the "R" omitted and with missing "V" between "G. V. R." and the missing "g," also the well-known variety with long tail to "g". Mr. Cooper's exhibit shows what can be done by the seeker after wmk. varieties in our current type stamps.

J. Battersby. (Bronze Medal).

L. O. Trivett. (2 Silver Medals one being under Class 9 limited to Members of Notts. Society only.)

This gentleman's early British were quite one of the finest things in the Exhibition and would have obtained highest award but for the crowded arrangement and omission of proper writing up, worthy of the many choice pieces shown.

1d. black, 1840, a block of 27 of the "Royal" reprint.

1840, the 1st 2d., marginal unused pair of Plate 1, and an unused block of 12 of Plate 2.

2d. with white lines, marginal unused block of 12.

A number of Post Office Circulars with "specimen" Stamps attached as sent to Postmasters in the early days.

In Class 8, Section C, Mr. T. B. Widdowson obtained a Bronze Medal for a nice Collection of Holland and Mr. B. J. Prestridge a Silver Medal for Siam. In Class 9, Mr. Frank A. Ellis won a Silver Medal for a fine and well arranged Collection of Russia and Mr W. V. Morton was awarded the Silver Cup for his Collection of Postal Curiosities, not the least interesting item being a circular letter from G. P. O. Edinburgh. (To all Postmasters) dated April 1840 with a pair of 1d. black attached.

Class 9 (Section B) L. O. Trivett. Jamaica. (Silver Medal).

A very fine lot including a number on covers showing British Stamps used in Jamaica before the introduction of the special issue.

After being on view at Leicester from December 29th to January 3rd the Exhibition was transferred to Nottingham from January 5th to 10th.

F. E. WILSON.

Persia.

REGARDING the provisional high values described in the September, 1919, copy of this journal, we are indebted to Col. J. E. B. Hotson for the following additional information:—

2 kr. on 5sh. 1889, mauve, perf. 11.

Do.	do.	„	13½.
3 kr.	do.	„	11.
3 kr.	do.	„	13½.
4 kr.	do.	„	11.
5 kr.	do.	„	11.
10 kr. on 10sh. 1891, carmine	„	10½.	
20 kr.	do.	„	10½.
30 kr.	do.	„	10½.
50 kr. on 14sh. orange	„	10½.	

The shades of the mauve are difficult to classify.

The 2 and 3 krs. are the only ones Col. Hotson has yet seen with more than one perforation.

The 1 shahi 1911 is now used on all newspapers coming from Tehran, instead of the 1 shahi Prov. of 1919 which for several months had taken its place.

New Issues.

British Empire.

Cook Islands.—2d., brown, wk. NZ and star, p. 15 x 14.

Duttia.— $\frac{1}{4}$ anna, blue, on white paper rouletted.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, red, on white paper.

Travancore.—1 $\frac{1}{4}$ chukram ordinary, and also overprinted "On S. S."

Foreign Countries.

Belgium.—In the steel Helmet series, 5, 20, 25, 35, 40 and 50c., and 10f.

Denmark.—60 ore, brown and blue.

Official stamp, 15 ore, claret.

Finland.—10 on 5p. green, 20 on 10p. rose, and 50 on 25p. blue—in black. It is believed that the 50 should have been in red and that this colour will be adopted for further overprints of this value.

Holland.—The 30c. surcharged in words as a 40c. and as a 60c. stamp.

Norway.—35 ore in grey-brown.

Extracts.

Busy Time for Collectors.—“With the advent of the New Year the stamp collector will find his field of enterprise greatly enhanced. Stamps commemorative of the ‘Peace’ are being issued next month in France, America, Turkey and Portugal, and three more of the numerous newly-formed Republics will adopt their first national stamps—Czecho-Slovakia, German-Austria and the Persian Republic of Azerbaijan. Then, in order to meet the newly-imposed Postal tariffs, fresh issues are being made in Germany and Sweden. The poet D’Annunzio’s latest coups at Fiume and Zara have created two new specimens, although they differ from their predecessors only by having the name of the town stamped across their face in black type. Aerial stamps are not, of course, original, but their history is still young. In this connexion, the initiation of a regular ‘Correo Aero’ in Spain will attract specimen hunters.

Expert stamp collectors expect a boom in the prices of rare issues, and one local authority states that many speculators are investing in obsolete Colonial specimens in preference to Government war bonds and certificates.”—*Stamp Collecting.*

* * * * *

Postmarks.—“Probably nothing has been more marked in the realms of philately, during the last few years, than the interest taken in postal obliterations; we have the evidence on all sides. Scarcely a paper on one of the old classic stamps is written which does not contain references to dated copies and out of the way cancellations. The Philatelic Society of India has recently published in book form its work on East India postmarks and the journal of the Society has been publishing for many months Mr. Godinho’s work on Early Frankings. *Mekeel’s Weekly* had a most interesting article recently on U. S. A. special postmarks. Gibbons nowadays list ‘used abroad.’ But the real climax comes when the thanks of a great Government Department are given to a well known collector for his unique and historical collection of British War Postmarks. Mr. G. H. Holland has been thanked most warmly on behalf of His Majesty’s Government for his valuable gift to the Imperial War Museum.”

"It was much appreciated and will be carefully preserved for all time as a national relic."

The gift is officially recorded as :—

"Type collections of Postmarks illustrating the activities of the British Post Office with the Forces during the Great War 1914—1919 (mounted on 40 sheets)."

The letter which Mr. Holland received from H. M. Office of works is :—

"The Museum duly received this morning your unique and extraordinary collection of British War Postmarks—beautifully mounted in the logical order. Their interest was far greater than any one could have expected. . . . On behalf of the Committee I must write at once to express our lively gratitude."

"Our heartiest congratulations to Mr. Holland on his great work and the official appreciation thereof."—*Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*.



DUM DUM STAMP CLUB.

Working Account and Balance Sheet from 1st January 1919 to 31st December 1919.

Balance Sheet on 31st December 1919.

* The bulk of the outstandings are for the last quarter.

R. F. STONEY,
Honorary Secretary,
Dum Dum Stamp Club.

The Philatelic Journal of India.

Vol. XXIV, No. 4.

APRIL.

[1920.]

The Philatelic Society of India.

CHE following have joined the Philatelic Society of India :—

The Hon'ble Mr. R. M. Watson Symth,
6, Lyons Range,
Calcutta.

Major John Mackenzie, C.I.E.,
Viceroyal Lodge,
Delhi.

James C. Heideman, Esq.,
C/o
Anglo-Persian Oil Coy.,
Post Maidan-i-Najtun,
via Ahwaz,
Persia.

Proposed by—
R. K. Stevens, Esq.
Seconded by—
Jno. Godinho, Esq.

Proposed by—
Mrs. J. Verney.
Seconded by—
Capt. D. S. Frazer.

Proposed by—
Jno. Godinho, Esq.
Seconded by—
W. Renouf, Esq.

Notes.

IN a paper on "Some easy countries to collect" by J. Ireland, read at the Brighton Branch of the Junior Philatelic Society, and reproduced in the *Stamp Lover*, the advice is given not to attempt too much. Unless one has means, it is inadvisable to take on countries like Great Britain, Ceylon, St. Vincent, United States, etc. Mr. Ireland advises beginners to look out for new countries. He instances as countries in which first issues are still easily obtainable—the Australian Commonwealth, British

Solomon Islands, Somaliland Protectorate, Brunei, Cayman Islands, Cook Islands, East Africa and Uganda, Falkland Islands, Gilbert Ellice Islands, New Hebrides, Nyasaland Protectorate, Papua, Kedah, Kelantan and Trengganu, the Federated Malay States, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago jointly, the Union of South Africa, Mecca, Tibet and Palestine. But a timely warning is given against overprinted stamps owing to the danger of forgery.

* * * * *

We may add the New Europe Stamps, although many of these already stand philatelically, discredited owing to the rapid succession of issues for which there can be no real justification. Many of these are purely speculative. However, the speculative issue has attractions for many, and here is an opportunity for securing first issues at prices which may appear very cheap ten years hence !

* * * * *

We regret that we made a slight mistake in our January issue at page 20, when we stated that Mr. W. T. Wilson of Birmingham had secured the Afghan and Cashmere collections of the late Col. Hancock, and that these were to be auctioned by Messrs. Plumridge & Co. in March.

Mr. W. T. Wilson has secured the Masson collections of the same countries, and he is offering these *en bloc* in each case. Mr. Wilson has no connection with the Hancock collections which Messrs. Plumridge will auction.

* * * * *

Members who have not received their copies of the hand-book on "Used-abroads," are requested to address the Honorary Secretary, Mr. Godinho.

* * * * *

Mr. C. Griffiths kindly shows us a cover from Chandernagore showing the cancellation type 7. The number appears to be of two figures. The second is 6, but the first is too faint to identify. We have conjectured that the number for Chandernagore is 86. The cover referred to above is in support of this view, but the number cannot be registered until a clear example is forthcoming. Mr. Griffiths informs us that he has a clear example and he promises to send it for inspection as soon as it comes to hand.

* * * * *

We much regret that we are compelled to make a further increase in our charges for advertisements in sterling, despite the fact that we made

a slight increase only two months ago. The reasons for the further increase are twofold.

(i). The cost of paper and labour having advanced materially, our publishers have had to increase their rates by from 70 to 75 per cent.

(ii). Owing to the rise in exchange, advertisements paid for in sterling barely cover our expenses.

The new rates come into force at once for advertisements taken after date; but advertisements which we have contracted for at old rates will, of course, appear at those rates for the period agreed on.

Rupee rates remain unaltered. The new rates in sterling correspond with these, at two shillings per rupee.

* * * * *

New Issues.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Travancore.—Messrs. Soobramoney Iyer, Travancore, notify the following errors:—

- Service—4 cash—Overprint inverted.
- “ “ —Imperforate.
- “ “ —Blue overprint.
- “ 1 ch.—“No” for “On.”
- “ 9 pies.—“S.” missing.

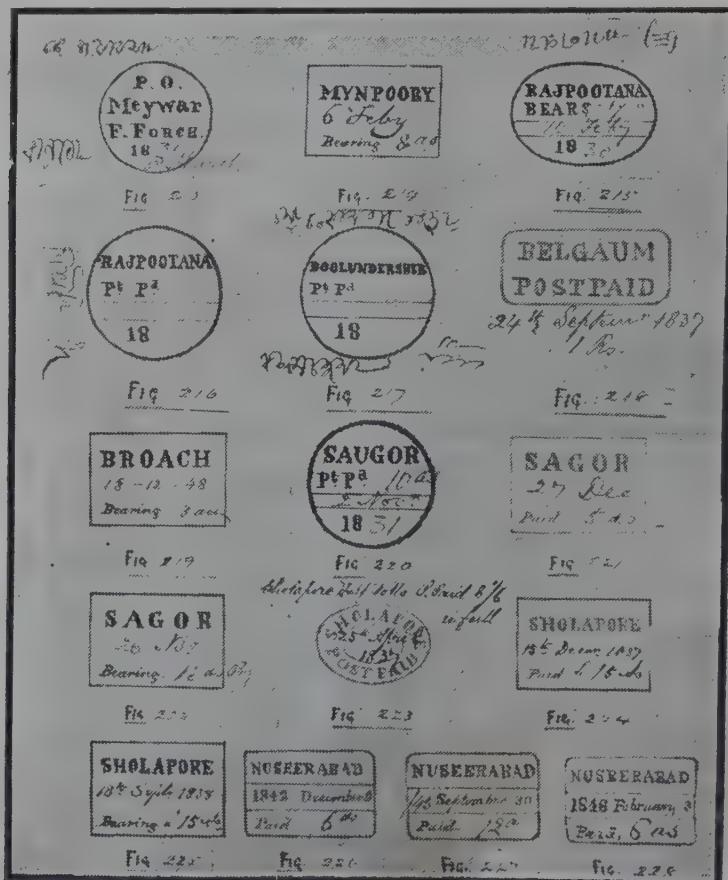


Old Indian Postal Frankings.

BY JNO. GODINHO.

(Continued from page 214).

Fig. 213 is a Circular impress in black of P. O. Meywar Field Force, 3rd March, 1832. There is no value entered on the letter on which it is affixed. This letter is dated Neemuch, March 2nd, 1832, and is addressed to Calcutta. It is quite a rare impress, and the only one of its kind in this collection. This impress is a revelation in philatelic history. It is the first



tangible proof we have, that there were field post offices with troops out on active service as far back as 1832, that is, 84 years ago. It also illustrates, that letters posted by soldiers on active service and on the field, paid no

postal charges. There is an entry to that effect on the cover, besides the two vernacular items.

Fig. 214 is a black, bearing, impressed, franking of Mynpoory, value annas 8, on a letter sent to Saugor from Camp Kuerowlee dated 4th February, 1839.

Fig. 215 is a Rajputana, single-line, oval, black, impressed franking, value annas 7, on a letter from Calcutta addressed to Hissar dated 18th January, 1830, and redirected from there. There is a vernacular item on it which is shown. This letter has on it a Calcutta G. P. O., "ppd" franking, value Re. 1. It has on it also a Rajpootana franking illustrated in the next figure.

Fig. 216 is also a Rajpootana impress in black, single-line circle and similar in type to Fig. 105. It appears on the same letter curiously as the preceding impress of Rajpootana, but no details are written within it. This impress has been carelessly affixed, and apparently smudged out by the hand so as to efface it. It is very likely that it was affixed in error. It does not appear quite complete, as portions do not show, but it is clear enough to show what it is. A vernacular item is also shown alongside. This letter has also on the face of it Bg. annas 7.

Fig. 217 is a Boolundersher (at present spelt Bulandshahr), black, circular, impressed franking similar, in type to the preceding one, on a letter sent to this place from Calcutta. Amount, date and year are not entered in the franking, but the letter itself inside shows June 18th, 1837. It bears three vernacular items.

Fig. 218 is a Belgaum, post paid, impressed franking in brown-yellow, with the date and the amount written alongside of it, on a letter sent to Calcutta. The impress has the appearance of a woodcut. In this collection, there are two for 1836 and 1837, values Re. 1-4 and Re 1. Both these letters have passed through Poona.

Fig. 219 is a Broach, bearing, impressed franking in black, value annas 3, dated 18th December 1848, similar in type to type 60.

Fig. 220 is a single-line, circular, black, impressed franking of Saugor, 1831, value, annas 10, on a letter addressed to Fort William (Calcutta). There are several covers of this type in this collection all addressed to the same place during the same year and showing the same value.

Another franking from Sagor (spelt without the u) is Fig. 221. It is impressed in red, on a letter to Camp Jansee dated 27th December, 1838,

"paid", annas 5. Specimens in the collection range from 1837 to 1839; values, annas 3, annas 4 and annas 5. Several of the letters, on which this Sagor impress is affixed, show no values, as they come from Calcutta, Meerut, Mirzapore, etc., and contain frankings of those places on them with values.

Fig. 222 also displays a Sagor franking, impressed in black, bearing, of the same type as the preceding one, value, annas 12, Bg. on a letter from Calcutta of 1837. This was in vogue in 1837 and 1838, values, annas 12 and annas 7. Several of these letters come from Calcutta and Cawnpore, and bear frankings of these places.

Fig. 223 exhibits a small, double-line, oval, red, impressed franking of Sholapore, "post paid", of 1837, with "Sholapore, Half tolla, P. paid 8/6 in full" written on the face of the letter, addressed to Calcutta.

Another illustration of a Sholapore franking is Fig. 224, impressed in red, of 1837, "paid," annas 15, on a letter sent to Calcutta.

A third type of Sholapore franking is Fig. 225, impressed in black, "bearing," value annas 15, on a letter of 1838, addressed to Calcutta.

Figs. 225, 226 and 227 are illustrations of "paid," impressed frankings in red of Nusserabad. These were current from 1842 to 1846, and values are annas 6 and annas 12, all on letters addressed to Calcutta.

(To be continued).



have, that the
ce as far back as 18
ted by soldiers

The 1 anna pointed bust of 1854.

Mr. C. Griffiths kindly sends for inspection a copy of the 1 anna pointed bust with the Northern India Circle Cancellation, type 5. See March issue. The office number is 106 and is different from that on the stamp chronicled last month which was one of the 140's. The third figure was not clear. Mr. Griffiths informs us that he has seen a copy recently with the Bombay Cancellation in type 4.

W. R.

Datia.

DHIS Feudatory State of British India has issued a new series of stamps.

The design is the same as the last issue,—the figure of Ganesh in the centre of the label, impressed with the usual circular handstamp in blue. The stamps are rouletted and printed on thick wove paper. The $\frac{1}{4}$ anna is in blue consisting of 31 stamps in the sheet.

The half anna is in red. The sheet contains 24 stamps.

Other values are expected to be issued shortly.

JNO. GODINHO.

Hyderabad, Deccan.

IAM indebted to a member of our Society, Mr. A. S. Nagarwalla, for a sight of an error in the stamps of this premier Indian Feudatory State. It is only in recent years that the labels of Hyderabad, Deccan, have attracted the attention of collectors. The discovery of colored lines missing in the 2 annas green, after it had been for years in circulation, is a notable instance of how actual errors remain ignored till the researches of a Headlow bring them to the light of day.

Mr. Nagarwalla's discovery is an impe without the u) is b! knowledge of the labels of this State. The stamp in q^{as}ee dated 27th D^s type 3, the

3 annas chestnut. All the stamps of this issue are characterised by the inscription in figures of the year 1276 in the inner circle. Two stamps of this value before us contain only 12 6, the Hindustani figure 7 having failed to print. This stamp has been before philatelists since 1871, and it is to-day after nearly half a century, that the error has been discovered. The error probably occurs in all the values.

Mr. Nagarwalla also sends for chronicling one $\frac{1}{2}$ anna envelope of this State with 3 stamps embossed in color, two on the front, one impression on the top right-hand corner, the other at the bottom left-hand corner, and a third at the lower right-hand corner at the back, besides bearing two Albino impressions on the face and on the back of the envelope—a monstrous curiosity.

JNO. GODINHO.

I. E. F.

Mr. N. S. Nagarwalla sends another proof of his philatelic activities. It is the current I. E. F. $\frac{1}{2}$ anna with no dot after the letter E.

JNO. GODINHO.

Portuguese India.

Mr. R. H. Tucker has submitted for my inspection a very curious variety of the 6 Reis grey (instead of *brown*) of Portuguese India, Don Carlos issue of 1898 without the "República" overprint.

This cover was posted at Chapora, a place in Bardez, Goa, as recently as the 17th October, 1914. It has gone through various post offices *en route* to destination, as the respective post marks testify.

The cover bears the postal impression T (taxa) unpaid from the office of origin as also the impression *Bombay Due one anna*. From these entries, it would appear that the postal clerk at Chapora considered the stamp to be of 1 Real from its color, and as such understamped for British India.

The marvel is, that in these days of exceptional philatelic activity, no other specimens have as yet been traced. There must have been an entire printing with this error of value. It is certainly not a changeling. The color is of an uniform grey, as of every 1 Real of this series. The value reads 6 *Reis*. The question for solution is whether it is an error of *color*, or error of value, as, in the specimen before me, the color and value are in conflict.

I draw the attention of specialists in Portuguese India to this unique variety.

JNO. GODINHO.

*an infringement
Povey was*

Extracts.

The Book of the "Penny Black."—A volume will shortly be published by Messrs. Chas. Nissen and Co., Ltd., dealing exhaustively with the first postage stamps, the famous British "Penny Black." The book will contain illustrations of all the stamps from every one of the plates, together with detailed notes of each stamp, which will enable the possessor of a solitary "Black" to allocate it to its proper plate.

No expense has been spared in bringing this work as near perfection as possible; and no fewer than 2,680 illustrations will be contained in the volume.—*The Philatelic Magazine.*

A True Story.—A specialist of our acquaintance lately desired to possess a certain variety which had long eluded his search. The stamp was of the catalogue value of 25/-, but like many another stamp of the price, its absence was conspicuous in many a stock book. Finally, our specialist visited Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and found them to possess a solitary copy—apparently the only one in London—which he promptly purchased at catalogue price. Glancing over the rest of the book he noted an even scarcer variety, the normal price of which was beyond his means. But as it was priced at one penny, he bought it also. One of the consolations of a specialist is that one should know more of one's speciality than the dealer, who cannot specialise in everything.—*Ibid.*

More Colonial Varieties.—We are informed that in new deliveries of the green and yellow papers used for stamps of many of the British Colonies it has been found impossible to match the former supply owing to the usual colouring mixtures being unobtainable. As a consequence the green paper is much darker than the standard colour, and the yellow paper brighter. Small supplies of new varieties on the last of the old paper should therefore become scarce, while the varieties on the new paper may also prove worth keeping, as a return to the "standard" colour may be expected as soon as its manufacture becomes possible.—*Ibid.*

Types of Collectors.—"The acquirer of stamps may be divided into several classes, and each is worth a study. (1.) The person who takes up the hobby with the view of making it an instructional one. As he goes on, its fascinating phases appeal to him, and he becomes the ideal collector of whom any philatelic society becomes proud, provided always he does not seclude

The first English postmaster of whom a distinct account can be given is Sir Brian Luke; in 1516 he was made Knight of the King's body, and in 1517 Governor of the King's Post.

16th Century.—~~Mr. ...~~ business of the foreign postal service to and from England during the early years of the year of the arrival of the Flemmings in London, and they were allowed to obtain an office of their own between London and the postmaster. In 1558 these merchants, being unable to agree on the appointment of a postmaster, the matter was referred to the Privy Council. At this period the English merchants had also their own post for conveying their letters abroad, and they petitioned the Privy Council not to appoint a foreigner as postmaster, but an Englishman acquainted with their language. The consequence of this was appointed to manage both Posts, under the title of "Chief Postmaster." He was really the first "Postmaster-General."

The office of Chief Postmaster created in 1558 was only concerned with letters inward from abroad and thus it came about that James I. created a new office of "Postmaster-General" for foreign posts.

1635.—In 1635 the rates charged were 2d. for a single letter to any distance less than 80 miles from London, 4d. for distances beyond, and 8d. to places in Scotland.

1644.—In 1644 Mr. Edmund Prideaux was appointed by both Houses of Parliament "Master of the Posts," and established a weekly conveyance of Posts to all parts of the country. At first, Mr. Prideaux, having to maintain the whole organisation at his own expense, was permitted to retain whatever profit he could make, and in 1649 the Government seeing the advantage of revenue, unwilling to take responsibility of management, the Government of the Commonwealth made a new arrangement in 1650, and the Post Office was farmed for £5,000 per annum.

This method of farming out the Post Office was continued, and Henry Bishop, the Postmaster-General, paid a yearly rental of £21,500.

In 1656, by an Act to settle the postage of England, Scotland and Ireland, it was enacted that there shall be one "General Postmaster-General of England." In 1661, as re-enacted.

1659.—In the Library of the British Museum there is an interesting pamphlet by John Hill of York, entitled "A Penny Post: or a vindication of the Liberty and Birthright of every Englishman, in carrying Merchants and other men's letters, etc."

1663.—In 1663, by an Act of Charles II., the profits of the Post Office were given

1680.—In 1680 Robert Murray and William Dockwra started a penny post for the conveyance of letters between the different parts of London within a radius of ten miles; the charges were 1d. within the city and suburbs, 2d. for any distance within the radius. Soon after its establishment Murray assigned all his rights and property to Mr. Edward Dockwra, who has the record of the very first postage stamp. He carried on the business for five hundred receivers in London and into seven districts, with a sorting office in each. The seven offices were supplied with stamps bearing their own initials.

The chief office was at Dockwra's private dwelling-house in Lyme Street. He established hourly collections and ten deliveries for the suburbs. This, however, brought him into conflict with the Duke of York, on whom and his heirs had been settled the whole of the Post Office revenues. A trial was tried in the Court of King's Bench, which decided in favour of the Duke of York.

Dockwra, after the revolution of 1688, obtained a pension of £500 a year for a limited period in compensation of his losses. In 1697 he was made Comptroller of the London Office.

On the death of Charles II. (1685), the Duke of York succeeding to the throne, the revenues of the Post Office then reverted to the Crown.

1708.—In 1708 a Mr. Povey started a halfpenny post in London; in Nov., 1709, the Postmaster proceeded against Mr. Povey for an infringement, and in 1710 an action was heard in the Court of the Exchequer. Povey was fined £100.

In 1710 an Act was passed for establishing a "General Post Office in all Her Majesty's Dominions," which repealed all previous enactments.

The rates charged under this Act for single letters were 3d. to any place in England not exceeding 80 miles, to Scotland, 6d., London to Dublin, 6d., a single letter to France, 10d., to Germany, Denmark, Sweden and New York, 1s., to Italy and Turkey, 1s. 3d., and to Spain, 1s. 6d.

These rates remained in force until 1761, when a single letter rate was altered to 1d. for 15 miles, not exceeding 40 miles, 2d., and an extra penny for every 40 miles beyond.

1774.—Mail coaches for the conveyance of letters were first set up at Bristol by Mr. John Palmer of Bath, 2nd August, 1774.

1784.—Mail coaches from London to Bristol first ran, August, 1784. In 1785, owing to the state of war in all parts of the world, the postal rates were still further increased, and remained unchanged until the 5th December, 1839, when the ~~new~~ ^{old} rate was introduced.

1830.—In 1830, the Liverpool and Manchester Railway was opened, which caused some rates to fall, and in 1833 the first shot ~~was~~ was fired in an attack on the London office, with its antiquated system, when Mr. — Wallace, Member for Greenock, began his onslaught against that institution.

1836.—In 1836, Mr. Rowland Hill ^{had} began to direct his attention to Post Office affairs, and in 1837 he published a pamphlet, "Post Office Reforms," and the effect produced by this pamphlet was enormous. On the 22nd November, Mr. Wallace moved a Committee "to inquire into the present rates of postage, etc." The Committee met in business in February, 1838; petitions ^{had} ~~had~~ been presented into the House of Commons from all quarters, and on August 17th, 1839, a Bill to enable the Treasury to establish uniform Penny Post was carried by a majority of 100, and became law in August, 1839. Parliamentary franking was then abolished.

1838.—Mails were first sent by rail ⁱⁿ 1838.

1839.—In September, 1839, a notice appeared in the public ^{press}, offering a premium of £200, for what the Treasury considered ^{the} best design for a stamp, and £100 for the next best. In response a large number of designs were received, but they did not meet with approval, and no better suggestions were offered than those already suggested by Rowland Hill, *viz.*, stamped covers, stamped envelopes, and adhesive stamps or labels. At this period to 1840 the practice for charges in the rates of postage on letters was by the number of sheets the cover contained; after the 5th December, 1840, the charge was by weight.

The firm of Messrs. Bacon & Co. submitted designs from Mr. Hill's rough sketches, Mr. Frederick Heath (a noted engraver) completed the design, Messrs. Bacon submitted the design and proposals, which were accepted by the Lords of the Treasury. A contract was entered into for one year from the 13th of April, 1840; the firm agreed to deliver the necessary quantity of stamps, printed and ^{gummed} at the rate of 7½d. per 1,000. The paper, which was hand made at Rush Mill, Northampton, was supplied by the Government. This contract was renewed from time to time for various periods.

1840.—The first stamps were 1d. black, 2d., blue, with Queen Victoria's portrait in the lower, Maltese crosses in the upper corners, watermark, small crown; also Mulready envelope, which did not meet with support and was quickly withdrawn.

Iraq.

WE learn from a trustworthy correspondent that the quarter anna stamp has been withdrawn from circulation. A new value has been added to the current set, namely, $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas.

The 5 paras brown, which was originally used for the overprinting of the $\frac{1}{4}$ anna, is now utilised to overprint on it $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas Iraq, in British occupation.

J. G.

Early Indian Town Numbers.

Type 9 (Punjab).

5 Jhang, after 1867.

Ferozapore, after 1867.

It is of interest to note that these office numbers are the same as in type 8.

In type 15, we have seen C with a number.

W. R.

The 1 anna, ^{mer}St George, King George.

We have found a copy of this with a vertical downward stroke from the end of the short arm of the second Service, the downward stroke extending to the lower arm. The stamp is in rose-red.

W. R.

N Issues.



THE
BRITISH
EMPIRE.

Post Office

Australia.—The 1d. on multi-ply Tudor Crown A paper.

FOR COUNTRIES.

Belgium.—The 5, 10, 15, 20, and 1 fr. Belgium surcharged Eupen and Malmedy, and new values in pfennig.

The Belgium victory issue covers various perforation varieties as follows:—

$11\frac{1}{2}$, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ and 11.

Iceland.—Mr. W. T. Wilson has chronicled the first value issued of a new issue with portrait of King Christian Xth, green.

Siberia.—A triangular issue for registration purposes, printed in the city and green, claret and violet for the five principal towns respectively. The Duke of York, at sea.

Mozambique.—"Correio" values on the War Tax labels of 1918.

Reviews.

Auction Prices of British Postage Stamps (1918-19) by Alexander R. Simpson. Published at the Office of Stamp Collecting, 89, Farringdon Street, London, E.C. 4. Price 2/6 net.—The object of this compilation is to enable philatelists to see the prices at which stamps (Great Britain) actually change hands at auction. It will be of intense interest to all who specialise in Great Britain.

* * * * *

Stamps as an Investment and Hobby—Notes for Beginners, by Douglas B. Armstrong. Published by R. E. R. Dalwick, Knoll Road, Dorking, Post free, 1½d.—Half the space of this little book is taken up by Mr. Dalwick's price-list and prospectus. He has made a speciality of war and armistice stamps. The first half of the book is by one of the best known writers of the day on philatelic subjects. Mr. Armstrong has no difficulty in showing what an excellent investment war stamps have been, and particularly those which were obviously rarities from the start. He contends, and he is probably right, that the prices of war stamps will continue to rise, and that they are still a most promising investment.

* * * * *

Chile—An outline of the Postal Issues 1766—1917, by Wilfrid B. Haworth. Printed at the Office of Stamp Collecting, 89, Farringdon Street, London, E.C. 4. Price 2-6 net.—In his preface, the author says too modestly that he has only given an outline of the postage stamps of the Republic of Chile. — He merely claims that his handbook is the grand work for a further serious study of all the stamps of Chile. His book impresses us as an excellent piece of thorough and careful Gauntious work. It deals with postal stationery as well as stamps. The illustrations and general do credit to the publishers. This book becomes Stamp Collecting Handbook No. 17 July.

* * * * *

The Standard Catalogue of Postage Stamps, 1920. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich. Price 5-0 net post free 5-6.—This is the twenty-fifth edition of this well-known publication. The cou*l*amee is unaltered. New issues have entailed the addition of 50 pages and 300 new illustrations. The latest issues up to January, 1920, are included. We notice that enemy coun*l*ee war issues have been listed. As regards new issues generally, the compilers have omitted many local overprints of Poland, Hungary, Ukraine, Turkey, etc., "many of which are of doubtful origin and still more doubtful value." We venture to commend the attitude of Messrs. Whitfield King, and we hope that other catalogue makers will endeavour to discriminate against purely speculative, dishonest stamps.

As usual, prices are distinctly moderate. The catalogue deals with the whole world and is of great value to the collector.

Extracts.

High prices at Auction.—"Reverting to the boom of high prices at auction, we get evidence of this by almost every mail that reaches us, either from Europe or the United States, which remarkable prices have been paid for rare and medium rare stamps, and in several instances catalogue prices. A specialist of, say, the old Swiss Cantonal stamps, would be in a respectable fortune in a collection of these if complete. At a recent auction in London a copy of the 4 rappen, Zurich 1843 vertical lines, on dated original, realised £64. Gibbons lists it at £16 used and Scott £15. The 5 + 5 Geneva, 1843,

1864, etc.—Types 26, 28, 32, 34, 37, 38, 39.

System III.—One copy of each shade.

System IV.—Collect watermarks and shades also.

1885, etc.—Type 43.

System III.—One copy of each value.

System IV.—The black and blue overprints and each shade.

1888-9.—Types 45 to 50.

System III.—One copy of each shade.

System IV.—Collect shades and watermarks.

Types 51 and 52.

System III.—One copy of each value.

System IV.—Collect shades and watermarks.

1890.—Type 55. Systems III and IV,—One copy.

1891.—Types 56 and 57. Systems III and IV.—One copy.

1891.—Type 58 to end.

System III.—One copy of each shade.

System IV.—Collect shades and watermarks.

The above would be a task requiring patience, philatelic judgment and a considerable outlay. A fair measure of success even under system III would be a matter for sincere congratulation. Of course any collector is at liberty to elaborate system III on any lines he may prefer. Some would elect to expand the early issues, while others would expand the later issues. It is all a question of fancy and money.

But the time has come to recognize that the standard of completion for general collecting is often far below the standard set by the lists in Gibbons. The recognition of this will give an impetus to philately. Let the general collector enjoy the same freedom of judgment as the advanced specialist.

W. R.

Early Indian Cancellations.

WE are much indebted to Captain E. M. Gilbert Lodge, R. E., for the view of a packet of old covers of the period 1856—1873, from which we have the following new data:—

Type 5 (North India).

52	Benares.
----	----------

Type 6 (Madras).

59	Chicacole.
----	------------

Type 7 (Bengal and Burmah).

21	Bassein.
----	----------

87	Culnah.
----	---------

The example from Bassein is in type 7 (b) (octagons in circle). The date is 1873. Two or three examples previously seen of type 7 (b) with the number 7, are of 1856 issue. So it would appear that this type was not confined to a short period and may turn out therefore to be fairly common.

No. 1 has been seen in type 7 (a) (three complete outer pentagons instead of the normal four). Other numbers already seen are 44, 62 and 183. The stamps are of the 1856 and 1865 issues. Here again, it is probable that specimens are fairly plentiful.

Type 4. VII. a (Bombay city), but with the lines ascending from left to right has been seen among Captain Gilbert Lodge's old covers with the date 1863. It is useful to record a dated specimen.

W. R.

British Indian Stamps used Abroad.

CHE Revd. B. D. Reed of Piddletrenthide, Dorchester, very kindly informs us that he has the 4 as. large service of 1867, No. 529 used at Baghdad on the 12 July, 1868.

The list of service stamps seen from the Persian Gulf post offices now becomes:

	S. G.
Bushire	... 542
	... 566
Muscat	... 531
Baghdad	... 529
Bahrein	... 539

Specimens appear to be rare, but with time it should be possible to make additions to the list.

W. R.

British India.

Mr. C. Griffiths of Calcutta kindly sends specimens showing a new shade in the rupee, King George, ordinary. The original shade is described as blue and olive. Gibbons. The new shade is blue and distinct dark olive.

W. R.

Hyderabad.

Mr. N. S. Nagarwalla sends us a new variety of this place for chronicling, the current 1 anna, small service, in *pink colour*.

Charkhari.

Mr. P. N. D'Souza sends us a new 1 piec service stamp of this State. It is probably an impression of a rubber stamp in deep violet. The device is the same as type Gibbon's Catalogue. This stamp is not sold to the public.

Batoum.

in the eastern zone of the war now undergoing gradual pacification, Batoum is the latest territory the labels of which have been overprinted "British Occupation."

The two older B's, Bushire and Bagdad, already enjoy an enviable reputation as regards the monetary value of their occupation stamps.

To judge from the subjoined totals, Batoum promises to be a fair third in the valuation lists.

25	on	5 k.	Palm Tree type	...	...	...	1,000
25	"	25 k.	" "	...	...	...	1,000
50	"	50 k.	" "	...	...	...	1,000
50	"	4 k.	Romanoff	...	...	...	1,000
50	"	1 kr.	imp. Russian in violet	...	...	...	600
25	"	20 on	14 kr. black	...	...	...	600
25	"	5 k.	in blue	...	...	...	600
25	"	25 k.	in blue	...	...	...	600
25	"	50 k.	in blue	...	...	...	600
50	"	3 k.	imp.	...	...	...	600
50	"	5 k.	"	...	...	...	160
50	"	2 k.	perf	...	...	...	600
50	"	4 k.	"	...	...	...	300
50	"	5 k.	"	...	...	...	400

Kazeroun.

in the issue of this Journal for August, 1919, the first announcement was made that the Persian stamps bearing the portrait of Sultan Ahmed Shah were overprinted Melat-i-Kazerum, 1335.

In the November issue of this journal, at page 218, in giving further information on this issue, we recorded, "The man who was responsible for this was Nasr-i-Divan, who led a rebellion against the British in a mistaken sense of patriotism to his country. Since the overprint hardly comes under the category of enemy issues though of course it is not issued by the British, etc."

In their latest catalogue, Stanley Gibbons in including this issue in their Persian, *nicie*, state, that the English version of the overprint is *national Committee of Kazerun*.

Although these stamps were introduced under a *mistaken sense of patriotism*, their legality has been admitted.

We are now in possession of further evidence on this subject.

Mr. M. L. Tannan has recently shown us about twelve covers franked with stamps bearing the overprint under reference. The stamps are obliterated with a circular mark reading KAZERUN in Roman characters, the date and year being in Persian. Some of these envelopes bear the impression of a seal in violet,—probably the same mark, but the most noteworthy circumstance affecting a few covers is that they display the magic war words—*open sesame*—Passed Censor Bushire.

The following are the values noted by us on these covers:—

- 1 ch. orange and green
- 2 „ sepia and carmine
- 3 „ green and grey
- 5 „ car. and brown
- 6 „ lake and green
- 10 „ brown and carmine

Gibbons does not record the 1, 5 and 10 ch.

There may be yet other values to be recorded.

JNO. GODINHO

Note.—A friend of the Editor very kindly sent him from Persia a set as follows overprinted Kazerun—5, 6, 9, 10, 12 ch. and 1, 2, 5, and 20 kr. All were postmarked. They accompanied a set of Bushires which turned out to be forgeries. The Kazeruns may be genuine, but it would be interesting to know if the higher values mentioned were really overprinted by Nasr-i-Divan, or if the Editor's friend was imposed on in the matter of the Kazeruns.

New Issues.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Bermuda.—The 2½d., in a paler shade of blue.

Jamaica.—A new stamp, 10sh. greyish-green.

Newfoundland.—The 3c., Caribou series, in a shade with a vermillion tinge.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Allenstein.—The German series 5 pf. to 3 marks overprinted PLEBISCIT OLSZTYN—ALLENSTEIN.

Argentine.—The sun watermark has been reintroduced in multiple form.

Belgium.—The 1c. and 2c. in the helmet series, but in smaller format.

Czecho-Slovakia.—An overprint in paras. for the Levant.

Finland.—A new issue for Ingria, a province taken from Russia a few months ago.

Germany.—A new official issue for Prussia.

Lettgalia.—Two new stamps 50 cent. and 1 rouble on the expulsion of the Bolsheviks from this area. Printed on half-made 10m. treasury bills.

Marienwerder.—German, and Italian, stamps overprinted for the plebiscite.

Russia.—A set for the Army corps of white Russia.

Siam.—A 5 satangs in a new design—profile of king, looking to left. This is believed to be the first of a new series.

Wallis and Futuna Islands.—The current New Caledonia issue overprinted. Values 1c. to 5 francs.

Extracts.

Russian West Army.

"A series of stamps, said to have been issued for the use of this army, have been
advised. They show a double-headed eagle in centre, and the Russian equivalent
'Russian Postage' at top. Our correspondent at Reval, to whom we wrote for
particulars of these stamps, reports as follows: I now hear they have never been used on
letters. My informant told me that they were printed in Berlin by order of an officer
belonging to General Bermond's staff. When the stamps were ready General Bermond
was beaten by the Letts, and retreating, and consequently he had no time left for issuing
stamps. They are considered to be unauthentic."—*Whitfield, King's Monthly Circular.*

* * * * *

The specialist is a type of philatelist to whom the hobby is very heavily indebted. How many of us, I wonder, have ever troubled to think how much philately, the scientific side of the present day, owes to the specialist? How many of us realize that, but for the coming of the specialist, the hobby of stamp collecting might have ceased to exist? The mere accumulating of stamps on the old fashioned principle of 'getting one of each bird' would never have contented men like Castle, or Hausburg or the present President of the Royal Philatelic Society. Adherence to that form of collecting would, sooner or later, have led to disaster; there would never have been enough in it to rivet the attention of the world to hold the interest of the many men of high intelligence and culture to whom scientific philately so strongly appeals.

The specialist is a man who is not merely building up a good collection for himself. By his example, by his discoveries, by his achievements in the field of research, he is stimulating and assisting his fellow-enthusiasts. The greatly increased support now forthcoming for philatelic literature is an involuntary tribute to the work of the specialist.

Realizing what the specialist has done for us, I ask of this Congress: what are we doing for the specialist? No one has more hills to climb than the specialist collector. No one helps him. The editor of his philatelic journal will not answer his questions, on the ground that they are "not of general interest;" the dealers pigeon-hole his want lists. I forget them; the catalogue, after he has passed the first stages in the study of his chosen section of philately, is of no use to him except as a more or less unreliable guide to some of the values. There must be dreadful moments when the specialist feels that nobody loves him." Mr. Bishop's paper on "Sectional Catalogues for Specialists" at the Congress.—*Stamp Collecting.*

* * * * *

"If fair and equitable prices can be arrived at by a single firm in the stamp trade, I am sure it would not be beyond the capacity of a group of ten or a dozen specialists, selected by your Publishing or Editorial Committee, to cope with the question with at least an equal measure of success and authority. The figures in your sectional Specialists' Catalogues would not be prices; they would be estimates of value, and since philatelic values are mainly of relative importance and significance, your Committee, with the aid of their specialist advisers and assistants, would, I think, have no difficulty in assigning an approximately true value to every variety they had occasion to include in their lists."—*ed.*

* * * * *

"What about the Monaco "War Orphans" issue? Some time ago no one expected this set to be good, and yet to-day they are rare. Only recently it was a case of shillings per set to buy, and now it is pounds. The truth of the matter is that this set did not sell well, and so when they were overprinted very few of the unoverprinted sets had been sold, and thus to-day it is a good set. An overprint often makes a common issue rare, and this is what has happened with the "War Orphans" issue of Monaco."—*Market Notes and Stamp Collecting.*

"I have seen a good many Baghdaids on the market during the last few weeks and have come to a conclusion that must now be obvious to all philatelists, namely, that the cheaper varieties are very common (comparatively speaking) and the rarer values are very rare. The two rarest stamps of all (S. G. 8 and 16) are not on the market at all—no one has them. I know of several people who want them and are not afraid to pay good prices, but they are not to be had."—*Ibid.*

An Overland Mail route to India.

"The Government of Bombay, towards the end of 1797, established a regular monthly postal service with Great Britain *via* Basra, and a notification informed the public of Madras that private letters would be received for transmission by this route. The Secretary to Government under the following conditions:—No letter was to exceed in length four inches, in breadth two inches, nor be sealed with wax. All letters were to be sent to the Secretary aforesaid, specifying the writer, with his name signed under the address, to be countersigned by the Secretary, previous to deposit in the packet, a warrant of permission. Postage in those days for ordinary letters was prohibitive enough, so it can well be imagined that postage on letters despatched by this route was not cheap. The postage on a single letter weighing one-quarter of a rupee, was 1 pagoda; for letters weighing half-a-rupee, 5½ pagodas; and for those weighing a rupee, 2 pagodas.

There were apparently two routes by which these mails were despatched, one by Bagdad and the other by Aleppo. Those to whom the postage was not a consideration and who wished to ensure as much as possible the delivery of their letters could duplicate them, paying the postage on each, and each letter would travel by a different route. As the correspondent elected to trust to a single letter, the route chosen was at the discretion of the Secretary to Government. Both routes met again at Constantinople. What happened across Europe the letters took is not mentioned in the article from which we have drawn the information."—*The Indian Post and Telegraph Magazine.*

"In the time of Akbar, private letters were allowed to be sent by the Governmental mails, and altogether 4,000 runners are said to have been employed. They were placed at stages at a distance of ten miles from each other, and the mails were conveyed 100 miles in the twenty-four hours or about four miles per hour. Letters are supposed to have taken five days in transit, between Agra and Ahmedabad in Guzerat. One very urgent despatch is said to have been sent 1,400 miles, in ten days, or at the rate of six miles per hour."—*Ibid.*

"With the advent of the British, regular postal lines had to be maintained for the purposes of administration, and private letters were allowed to be sent as a concession, but no figures earlier than those of 1853-54 have survived the periodical destruction of records, and only glimpses of the institution can be obtained from contemporary literature. The writer drew the following picture from the result of his researches:—

"About 1790 the mail bags were conveyed by *harkat*, or runners, who were changed at intervals of eight miles. Each was attended by a drummer who beat a

tattoo while passing through jungly tracts known or suspected to harbour tigers. After nightfall two torch-bearers formed part of the escort, and where the road was specially dangerous a brace of archers was supplied. The little band was thus, under ordinary circumstances, secure from the attacks of their feline foes. Sometimes, however, a hungry man-eater would defy the united forces of the Department, and disappear with a victim before his scared comrades had regained their presence of mind. The district of Chota Nagpore, then known as Ramghur, had an evil reputation in this respect. On more than one occasion, the Company's mails were stopped nearly every night for a fort-night consecutively while traversing one of the four passes near Hazaribagh. From one danger which still awaits his descendant in office, the runner of 1790 was free. Like Horace's traveller, who rejoiced in his empty pockets, he feared no assault by highwaymen. Registration, insurance, and value-payable parcels were all in the womb of futurity, and the mail bags seldom contained anything of intrinsic worth."

It was not till the year 1837 that a public post was established by Act XVII of 1837, which created a monopoly vested in Government. A department was then organised, but there was no central authority, and the arrangements in each district were in charge of the Revenue Collector of that district. The roads were bad, as internal communications had not been properly developed. The writer previously quoted, gives the following description:—

"In point of fact the East India Company had never shown itself alive to a position which has now become a truism, too stale to insist on, that the prosperity of a country, and therefore of its Government, depends largely on the degree to which its internal communications are developed. The charges on the best-conducted route—that between Calcutta and Bombay—averaged a lakh of rupees annually. This sum allowed for the maintenance of three runners on every stage, each of whom carried eighteen pounds; the weight of Calcutta letters reaching Bombay by mail steamer being six hundred pounds on the average. Eight days were required to pass the whole batch to its destination. The period of transit was ten days; hence, in 1840, letters were often longer *en route* across the peninsula than they are now in accomplishing the entire distance between Calcutta and London. So deplorable was the state of the roads, even on this trunk line, that Home letters often missed the mail steamer. In September, 1841, seventeen hundred were thus left behind at Bombay to wait an entire month! On another occasion, all the mail letters posted in Calcutta were brought back to the capital. It turned out that the runners had met their *confreres* from Bombay near the 'half-way house', and exchanged bags with them unwittingly after indulging in a friendly smoke together! The organisation was bad to an incredible degree. Purposeless detentions of four days at Bombay were not unusual. Letters for stations intermediate between the large towns were systematically overcarried to the terminus of the postal lines and then returned to their destination. The newspapers of the period teem with complaints of loss and inconvenience arising from mismanagement. All things considered it is doubtful whether any substantial advance took place between 1790 and 1840."

It was not till the year 1854 that the post office was organized on its present footing. A Director-General was appointed, and the main lines throughout India were placed under his control."—*Ibid.*

* * * * *

The Collector.

"It would be hard to say when the scientific collector made his first appearance. We find him in Italy at the time of the Revival of Learning when the terror of the Turk was upon Eastern Europe and the Byzantines, or their visitors, who possessed rare jewels, manuscripts, codices and objects of art were making their way towards Italy, where they

hoped that the Christian power would keep the Moslem at bay. Since that time at least we can follow the collector; we see him growing in numbers and efficiency. With the passing years, the scope of his labours has developed until at last he covers with his keen regard every aspect of his special choice. If he be a bibliophile, he will require not only the first editions, but every edition of his chosen authors; if he collects engravings, not only the first proofs but all sets and stages of all proofs will be needed to make his portfolio complete. Those who are not interested may feel they can well afford to laugh. It surprises them to find any pursuit taken seriously. But the making of collections can be defended. It is at least quite harmless, it stimulates an ambition that hurts no man, it develops gifts of observation and research that are useful to the individual, not only in his capacity as collector, but in whatever direction his activities lie."

PENNY BLACKS PLATED BY F. WADHAM.

* * * * *

Issues in the occupied territories of Hungary

Griebert's Philatelic Notes for June, 1920, contains an interesting controversy regarding the numerous issues in the occupied territories of Hungary. The Hungarian Society of Stamp Collectors in Budapest have taken the initiative by denouncing the following twenty-two sets as issued by unauthorised bodies.

1, 2, 3.—So-called Tchéco-slovaque issues, from somewhere in the North of Hungary, with the following surcharges: (a) Cesko-Slovenska Posta, (b) allied arms of Tchéco-slovaques and Cesko-slovenska statni posta, (c) arms of Slovaques and Slovenska Posta. (These issues must not be confounded with the issue which appeared on the 13. XII, 1919, at Prague, "Posta Cesko-Slovenská 1919," which for the present we do not take into account at all; .

4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.—So-called Jugo-slave issues from the territory of Muraköz and neighbourhood, some of which bear the surcharge "S.H.S.", others "Medjimur je" or "Prekomur je." (These issues must not be mistaken for the issue "S.H.S.", which appeared at Zagreb (Agram) at the end of 1918 for Croatia, which is irreproachable);

10.—A so-called exclusively Serbian issue surcharged with the "arms of Servia"—somewhere in the South of Hungary;

11.—A so-called Roumanian issue with surcharge "arms of Roumania"—also somewhere in the South of Hungary;

12.—A so-called Roumanian issue with indication of value in "buni" and "lei"—somewhere in Transylvania;

13.—A so-called Roumanian issue in Transylvania (said to be by Kolozsvár otherwise Nagyszeben, otherwise Brassó) with Roumanian monogram, the words "Regatul Rumaniei" and the value in Roumanian;

14.—A so-called Roumanian issue like the former (the issue said to be by Nagyvárad probably at Nagyvárad;

15.—A so-called Roumanian issue at Debreczen, with the surcharge "Zona de ocupatie."

16.—A so-called Roumanian issue, put into circulation at Paris, with the surcharge "Occupationea romana B. Pesta 1919";

17.—A so-called French issue at Arad, with surcharge "Occupation Francaise";

18.—A so-called local Jugo-slave or perhaps Hungarian issue at Pécs, with surcharge "Baranya 1919" in straight line;

19.—A so-called local Jugo-slave, or perhaps Hungarian issue with crescent surcharge "Baranya";

20.—A so-called local issue exclusively Hungarian in appearance at Temesvar with value in Hungarian;

21.—Another so-called local issue, also at Temesvar, of which the origin, whether Roumanian, Serbian, French or Hungarian, is unknown, with the surcharge "Bánát-Bácska"; and

22.—A so-called local Hungarian issue at Szeged, with surcharge "Magyar-nemzetikormány Szeged 1919."

The Hungarian Society's position is that they only recognise as postage stamps of Hungarian territory, such postal values as have been officially put into circulation by the General Post Office at Budapest. They argue that the Convention of the Armistice—with the exception of the territory of Croatia and Fiume—did not grant the troops of occupation the right of putting postage stamps into circulation. Until the conclusion of peace the Postal Union at Berne can only recognise stamps issued by the General Post Office at Budapest.

The Austrian Dealers' Society in Vienna has replied to this indictment. They admit that sets 1 to 12 are of private or doubtful origin. But they maintain stoutly that sets 13 to 22 have a claim to recognition. They point out that the authorities giving permission or order for the issue of these stamps were the powers acting in place of the Hungarian supreme power, that is, the various military powers which invaded Hungary. The contention of the Austrian dealers appears to us to be perfectly correct. At the same time, the Hungarian Society deserves credit for effectually showing up twelve out of the twenty-two sets in their list.



Reviews.

Switzerland, the Cantonal Stamps, by A. S. Allender. Price Re. 1 net. The *Philatelic Magazine*, 4 Crane Court, London, E. C. 4.—This gives an excellent account of these rare and interesting stamps, well illustrated, which will be most useful to the advanced collector—and of great assistance to him in avoiding dangerous forgeries.

* * * * *

Penny Blacks plated by F. Wadham. The offices of *Stamp Collecting*, 89 Farringdon Street, London, E. C. 4.—In his foreword, Mr. Wadham states the scope of the book—to assist and guide those who wish to study closely the world's first stamp, and its most artistic and attractive stamp in every respect—to demonstrate the comparative ease with which these stamps can be plated, or most of the plates reconstructed—and to make the relative values of the eleven plates better known.

Taking the unit value of the commonest plate as 10 units, the author estimates that plate 11 is worth 1,000 units, with plate 10 next in order of rarity at 60 units. It is only necessary to state this fact to arouse the interested curiosity of every collector in Great Britain and to make him wonder if he is the lucky possessor of a copy of plate 11. With the commonest penny black catalogued at 4s., plate 11 must be somewhere in the vicinity of £20.

Mr. Wadham, who is the authority on this subject, describes how the various plates have been reconstructed. Many of the records had been destroyed in a fire in 1872, and the early platers had very slender material to start on. Guides, flaws and markings had to be found out and traced, but by the interchange of stamps, blocks, pairs and photographs the whole fabric has been gradually built up and all the stamps of each of the 11 plates definitely established.

The most useful of all indications to the plater is, the check letterings in the bottom corner squares. "These, being struck by hand separately, varied very considerably in position. A large proportion, instead of being placed exactly in the centre of the square or letter block, were struck either above or below the centre, to left or right, starting backwards or forwards."

Some plates show flaws and markings. And the shade of the stamp also plays a useful part.

A useful list of the features of individual plates is given. In addition Mr. Wadham indicates how the plater should set about his task. An interesting set of illustrations shows the corresponding lettering of one stamp (H.I.) from each of the eleven plates. Perhaps, some day, it will be possible to produce photographs of the complete plates on sheets. This would be an invaluable guide to those who wish to start plating, and also to the generality of collectors who would like to identify the stamps they possess. Up to the present, plate 11 "is practically unrecognisable by the majority of both collectors and dealers until they have devoted some time to the study of plating."

The general collector will not be able to identify plate 11 merely from the perusal of this book. But this much is useful to know. Plate 11 is greyish in shade. Again, the J's in plate 11 are all "square," this peculiarity being, however, shared with plate 10.

We strongly recommend this exceedingly well written and suggestive little book to all collectors of Great Britain. Those who started plating the penny black some years ago, were able to acquire the bulk of their stamps at cheap rates. But, even now, they may be bought with full confidence that no stamp is more certain to appreciate steadily in value with time.

We believe that a book with photograph of the eleven sheets of the penny block, showing every stamp in each sheet, will appear in the autumn. This will completely raise the curtain, a corner of which has been lifted in the column under review.

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Hagen's Illustrated Priced Catalogue of the Stamps of Australia, New Zealand and Adjacent Islands, 1920. Price 2/6, post free. 66 King Street, Sydney, Australia.—An excellent compilation giving, on many points, more detail and information than Gibbons. Prices are generally below those of Gibbons, and collectors of Australasia will find it advantageous to obtain a copy of this list.

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The Philatelic Journal of India.

Vol. XXIV, No. 10.

OCTOBER.

[1920.]

The Philatelic Society of India.

THE following have joined the Philatelic Society of India :—

J. E. C. Jukes, Esq.,	Proposed by—
I. C. S.,	W. Renouf, Esq.,
Finance Dept.,	I. C. S.
Simla.	Seconded by—
	Jno. Godinho, Esq.
H. Blascheck, Esq.,	Proposed by—
C/o	Jno. Godinho, Esq.
Messrs. H. Blascheck Co.,	Seconded by—
79, Medows St., Fort,	M. L. Tannan, Esq.
Bombay.	Proposed by—
Capt. Arthur P. Draper,	W. Renouf, Esq.,
M. C. M. D.,	I. C. S.
C/o	Seconded by—
Messrs. Grindlay & Co.,	Jno. Godinho, Esq.
Fort,	
Bombay.	

Notes.

WE are obliged to Captain Eve, 2/128th Pioneers, for some interesting additional information on the subject of the first aerial posts. A cutting from the "Pioneer" shows that the Allahabad U. P. Exhibition Aerial Post of February, 1911, actually the first aeroplane post in the world, was intended to demonstrate the possibility of despatching letters from a beleaguered town by aeroplane in the same way as was done by balloon during the siege of Paris in 1871. The press communiqué pointed out that an aeroplane flying at night would be difficult to discover, and, even if discovered, almost impossible to hit. In accordance with this scheme, letters posted at Allahabad did the first part of their journey, beyond the

lines of the imaginary besiegers, by aeroplane, and were then forwarded to the addresses in the usual way. The above account throws an interesting light on the philatelic status of covers sent by this post. In our opinion, their status is beyond question and they are very desirable acquisitions. We should expect them to appreciate in value. The postmark shows an aeroplane flying over some hills with 1911 inset. The inscription around the circumference of the circle is First Aerial Post. U. P. Exhibition, Allahabad.

* * * * * *

Captain Eve also sends examples of a postcard and a special envelope used in the first United Kingdom Aerial Post in September, 1911. This was on the same lines as the Allahabad Post, the journey done by aeroplane being from London to Windsor. The special envelope shows on half the front side an aeroplane flying over Windsor Castle. The circular cancellation displays the words *First United Kingdom* around the circumference, and the words *Aerial Post, London, S. P. 13, 1911*, in the centre. The flap bears the record **Aerial Post** and also shows a propeller and its shaft.

* * * * *

The *Australian Philatelist* warns collectors against very dangerous forged overprints as follows:—

(i) The first issue of WAR TAX in two lines on St. Lucia. The words are wider apart in the forgery. The A of WAR is also a little more to the right in the forgery than in the genuine stamp.

(ii) NEW HEBRIDES CONDOMINIUM on Fiji. The C of condominium falls between N and E in the genuine stamp. In the forgery it is nearly under N.

* * * * *

We learn that 39 varieties of Turkish stamps received the Arabic overprint "Hakuma-al-Arabi" (Arab Government) for Syria. Besides this, a commemorative, 5 piastres, was issued at Damascus on the 8th March, 1920. With the downfall of Amir Faisul's Government, these stamps should become rare.

* * * * *

Stamp Collecting warns its readers that "there are a number of queer varieties of the Ukraine tridents on the market, which we are very doubtful about. Some of these are in fancy colours, namely, red and blue, and others are in the exact types. We especially refer to the Kieff overprints, small and large, in black, Poltana in black, and Winnitsa, Jmerinka, Ekaterinoslav, Kamonetz, Polodsk, Toultschin, Proskourow and Balta."

The same Journal chronicles a dangerous forgery of the Cayman Islands, King Edward, 5s. salmon and green, of 1907. "This has been printed on Mult. Crown C A paper from which all trace of another stamp has been removed by boiling or exposure to light."

* * * * *

From the auction room:—

		£	s.	d.
India, 1854—				
Die I, 4 annas, pair, slight crease	....	8	0	0
Die I, 1 anna, unused, strip of four with full corner margins	....	5	10	0
Die I, $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, blue, vertical strip of six and Die I, 1 anna, horizontal strip of three	3	17	6
4 annas, 1854, on small piece	2	4	0

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Mr. Buckland Edwards in *Market Notes* in the *Philatelic Magazine* is of the opinion that there is a considerable falling-off in the demand for New Europeans, "which are frankly regarded as rubbish by a good many collectors." He anticipates a further rise in penny blacks when the new book on the 1d. black appears in the autumn with illustrations of all the stamps making up the various plates, and he expects to see a steady increase in 1d. reds, imperforate. As regards the future trend of general prices he writes "it is well to recognise the fact that prices cannot continue to rise indefinitely, at any rate to the extent seen during the last two or three years."

* * * * *

We learn from *Stamp Collecting* that the Bermuda War Tax stamps cannot be used for postal purposes. These stamps must be affixed in addition to the regular postage.

* * * * *

A Danish Committee is endeavouring to raise funds for the restoration of Rheims Cathedral by the sale of labels in the form of stamps sold at 10 centimes each. Mr. Geo Robey is adopting a similar device for the Printers Pension Corporation.

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Stamp Collecting announces that it has been shown by Col. W. W. Lean an entire envelope from Rangoon to Calcutta, bearing the date 1857, and having a green 4 annas of 1856—65 on it. Our contemporary remarks as follows: "this is distinctly counter to the hitherto accepted date of 1864 for the first use of this particular stamp. 1864 may be correct as regards India, but it certainly is incorrect as regards Burmah."

It is highly probable that Hausburg and Gibbons have based the date, 1864, on official records. Hausburg gives the date of introduction of each value and colour in the 1856 series, and he presumably consulted reliable documents. The colour of the 4 annas of the 1856—65 issue was changed from black to green on account of forgeries. Also, the black cancellation mark did not show up well on the stamp. The date 1864 is very strongly corroborated by the rarity of the green stamp as compared with the black. The Burma Post Office in the fifties and sixties was subordinate to Calcutta, and drew its supply of stamps from the Indian Postal authorities. It did not make separate indents on Messrs. de la Rue. The dates for India and Burma must be the same.

We consider that *Stamp Collecting* has arrived at a hasty conclusion and we suggest that there is probably some other reason for the serious philatelic anachronism now reported, and that a very close examination of the challenging entire and of its history is necessary before the date 1864 can be called into question.

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A notable find of old U. S. stamps has been made in Philadelphia among the letters of William Meredith, a former Secretary of the U. S. Treasury. For fifty years these papers lay forgotten in a garret.

* * * * *

The value of the watermark as a protection against the forgery of postage stamps is discussed in the book of the Survey of Egypt on the *Postage Stamp Issue for the Hejaz*. It is pointed out that at the present day opinions differ as to the value of this expedient in the manufacture of paper money, but that it is a cardinal principle with the upholders of the practice that the watermark design shall not be obscured by superficial printing. A second principle that is equally accepted is that the days when a simple "recessed" watermark afforded protection have long since passed, and that a watermark, to be of value, must now be of a complex nature, built up of varying gradations of thickness.

*, artistic and clearly displayed watermarks
It is argued that, if highly coup currency notes, it is obvious that the simple, afford doubtful protection in the case of relatively diminutive size of postage stamps, crude and obscure watermark, which the forger, permit, can offer no effective obstacle to the

* * * * *
amps will soon appear for Palestine, with the
It is said that a new issue of stamps in Hebrew, Arabic and English.
inscription "Erdy Israel" (Land of Israel)

* * * * *
the Cooks Islands.
A "Victory" set is threatened from

* * * * *
column there are a number of issues which
Among the items in our New Issu are transparently speculative and superfluous. But what else can one expect from
small needy States, while dealers and collectors absorb anything that is offered? It is
such a simple and cheap way of making money.

In continually warning our reader, against impositions of various kinds, we
should say once more that we are in the path of the collector. There are however
dangerous rocks and shoals which lie in the fullest extent the pleasures of hobby.
very extensive seas in which he can enjoy them

* * * * *
In an article on the financial side of philately in the book issued containing
the programme for the Zurich International Congress of Postage Stamp Dealers,
Georges Brunel shows that the appreciation in the value of stamps does not
depend merely on the total number printed, but also on fashion, on the stock of the
firm issuing a catalogue, and occasionally

As an instance of speculation he shows how the 15c. of 1849 is quoted at
300 francs, whereas, having regard to the number printed, it is presumably only
worth 45 francs. Similarly, the 1 franc of 1849 is quoted at 3,500 francs as against
a fair price of 135 francs. M. Brunel cites a well-known instance of highly successful
cornering in the case of some French Colonials.

M. Brunel traces the appreciation of a certain number of rare and popular
stamps.

Catalogue value in francs.

1870	...	900
1890	...	23,000
1910	...	85,000
1920	...	400,000

The advance in the last 10 years is amazing, even after allowing for the depreciation of money, and the depreciation of the franc. These are however picked stamps, selected after the event, when it is too late. It would be interesting to trace the prices of ordinary sets issued 40 or 50 years ago. This would give a better idea of the financial aspect of stamp collecting for the ordinary man.

* * * * *
Mr. Jelliman, in the Australian Philatelist, discussing the future of war stamps, thinks that those Islands which only issued one or two war stamps will probably prove "good." The Bahamas 1st type special delivery, is fast rising in value, and Mr. Jelliman predicts an exceptional rise in 12 months' time. Togo local printings on Gold Coast are also likely to go up in value.

Messrs. Harmer Rooke & Co., Ltd., have finished the season with a wonderful record.

They have always led the way with regard to the frequency of their sales but the total number of lots offered this season surpasses what one would conceive as being possible. The figure they have now placed on record is 47,370 for the season. As they close down only for five weeks, that means an average of one thousand lots per week. This represents an increase of ten thousand lots on their previous season.

Their sales have included many single items running into three figures and are now specially conspicuous for important collections. One of their catalogues last month was illustrated with eight pages of photographs of rarities and every month there are generally one or two illustrated. They recently obtained £120 for a block of four V. R. 1d. black.

For next season, they have obtained many valuable private collections, including the frequently exhibited one of the late Col. R. G. Iremonger. Catalogue richly illustrated is now already available and should prove of great interest to advanced collectors.

Their wholesale Sale of September 25 includes some wonderful items which have probably never before been offered in Auction, such as a complete sheet of 128 of the rare De la Rue Cape Triangular 1d. brown red, an entire sheet of 60 of the Jamaica 1½d. orange, with inverted surcharge. All advanced Collectors and Dealers should write for copy.

* * * * *

An unrecorded and rare retouch of the 1854 ½-anna blue.

The locally lithographed British India 1854 issues are truly interesting and though an immense amount of research work has been accomplished by Hausburg and others, these stamps still spring surprises though they were prepared more than half a century ago. A few days ago it was my good fortune to inspect a ½-anna blue, 1854, on entire and I found that the top of the Queen's head had been distinctly retouched and was conical in shape, with hairs well parted, instead of sloping towards the chignon as is usually the case. The retouch is illustrated below:—



I have in my collection in singles, pairs and blocks over seven hundred, ½-anna 1854, and as I have not been able to locate this variety in my stamps it must be a distinctly rare retouch. It belongs to the July, 1854, transfer, and, from the watermark and other indications, appears to be No. 66 in the sheet.

The entire is now in Mr. Renouf's Collection.

K. D. COOPER.

The 1-anna, India of 1854 on blued paper.

WITH reference to the above-named article in the August, 1920, issue of this Journal by W. R., I have to state that I have in my collection the East India 1 anna, on blued paper, both with watermark and without watermark. The colour of the paper stood firm against Hydrogen peroxide 20 volumes and other chemicals, with which I treated it and as Hausburg say, that "the blueing of the paper is probably artificially produced," and as the 1-anna stamps on bluish paper undoubtedly exist, and are not at all common, it is impossible to dogmatise, and the controversy must rest at that. My personal opinion, and I give it for what it is worth, however, is that the theory of chemical action though plausible is not at all conclusive, and that a few at least of the sheets on which the 1-anna stamps were printed were blue. We all reverence the memory of that great philatelist Hausburg, but, with due deference to him, I humbly venture to submit that everything in connection with British India Stamps did not come within his ken. For instance, I have in my collection the 1856 4-annas, black, and the 1868 8 annas, rose, die II, on white glazed paper, somewhat thicker than the normal. These varieties have been known to specialists of British India Stamps for years, but Hausburg does not record them and Gibbon's catalogue does not list them. It is quite possible that a reference to Messrs. de la Rue would elicit no conclusive reply, but the stamps on glazed white paper exist all the same.

Before leaving this subject, I may mention that there is in my album the 1854 ½-anna, blue on blue paper.

One stamp, of the August, 1854, transfer, is on distinctly bluish paper, and is on a cover from Kamptee, bearing the cancellation Type 4, with number 76. It should be mentioned that the paper of the envelope is blue, but there is no reason to believe that the paper of the stamp has been affected by it, for thousands of ½-anna, blue were affixed to similar blue envelopes and remained on them for decades without this result. There is also in my collection a pair of ½-anna, die II, on paper which is very faintly bluish. These are on a white envelope from Hingowlee, dated April, 56. The dates and places are important in case any new copies are reported.

The manner in which these stamps came into my possession leaves no doubt whatsoever in my mind that the stamps have not been in any way tampered with.

K. D. COOPER.

Old Indian Postal Frankings.

SUCH of our readers as have taken an interest in the series of articles on "Old Indian Postal Frankings" may like to know that this unique collection is in the market. Its owner thinks that some philanthropist might perhaps like to acquire it for some Indian Museum, as it is purely an Indian postal relic. Offers have been received from abroad, and negotiations are still pending. Along with it the owner is willing to cede his other collection of English Postal Frankings which has not yet been described in any journal. We hope to do this in process of time. Any one wishing more detailed information about these collections may apply to Dr. J. T. Meade, 6, Middleton Row, Calcutta.

Some Philatelic Phases of the World War and after.

THE above is the title of a paper by Mr. T. H. Hinton, read before the recent Congress at Newcastle. The paper has been printed in full by the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* and we venture to make an abstract of its purport for our readers.

Mr. Hinton begins by saying that the *raison d'être* of his paper rests on para. 3 of the statutes of the International Philatelic Union which reads "The discouragement and suppression of all stamps not really legitimately required for postal use, or which are intended for sale to collectors only." This extract reminds one forcibly of the League of Nations and its objects. Much "high-brow" talk and many laudable aspirations, but there the matter is unfortunately apt to end.

Mr. Hinton proceeds to divide into classes "the philatelic avalanche which has descended on collectors" as a result of the war.

CLASS 1.—*Stamps, cards and envelopes issued by combatants.*

As regards occupation stamps Mr. Hinton remarks that there is plenty of evidence that in many cases too many speculative philatelists have been at the front and made the most of their opportunities. However, these stamps have a far better status than any of the other classes. Those which are above suspicion have great historical and philatelic value.

CLASS 2.—*Stamps issued as a War Tax to increase rates of postage.*

Mr. Hinton contends that all these issues were unnecessary. Trinidad led the way with 32 varieties of ½d. and 1d. stamps between October, 1915 and September, 1918, excluding minor varieties and errors. "Complaints have appeared in American stamp journals that the Postal authorities worked in conjunction with a local speculator, who held the monopoly." In our opinion, speculation is apparent wherever a country has brought out a large number of these issues. When issues were very few, there is no reason to charge the Government with bad faith. But an ordinary 1½d. stamp would have done as well for all practical purposes as a 1d. stamp, overprinted, "war tax."

CLASS 3.—*Issues in conjunction with postage stamps to benefit the Red Cross.*

In some cases, petty Governments and Chartered Companies benefited far more than the Red Cross, and here again the speculator also scored and the collector was plundered. "When we see the petty Governments of Liberia, San Marino and Monaco, to say nothing of Chartered Companies, adding to the hoard of useless rubbish that they have already inflicted on the long-suffering collector, it would seem time to call a halt." Mr. Hinton points out that experienced collectors as a rule do not purchase these wares. But the inexperienced beginner does, and at a later time when he may want to realise his collection, he finds out too late its worthless character. We hear much nowadays about philatelic propaganda, but in our opinion the direction in which propaganda should be directed, in the best interests of collectors and dealers, is towards warning inexperienced collectors against rubbish in the form of purely speculative issues.

CLASS 4.—*Souvenir stamps in aid of charities but with no postal value.*

CLASS 5.—*Stamps issued by various countries during the armistice, pending the settlement of Peace Terms, and reconstruction, and on the conclusion of Peace by the New Governments. Also various unnecessary Peace and Victory Stamps, some issued by Neutrals who have done nothing but make a profit all through the War out of the misfortunes of others.*

Mr. Hinton writes :—“ The republic of Lithuania has recently indulged in a set of four stamps commemorating the first year of the republic, printing 30,000 sets, getting a banker to advance money on 20,000 of them, and putting the remainder on sale for three days, any left going to the banker to put on the market. This is the way these and other hard-up Governments exploit the collector. We are now deluged with offers of an endless variety of Occupation, Plebiscite and other novelties perpetrated by various mushroom Governments. Witness the hideous Hungarian Bolshevik set of five, dribbled over here in small quantities and sold at 10 to 12s. the set. It is now stated that there is a remainder of 200,000 sets. All this savours more of ‘ Bucketshop ’ speculation than Philately to which it is a standing menace.”

This paper was read before a very representative gathering of leading philatelists, dealers and publicists. But we have seen no evidence that it elicited any discussion, although Mr. Haward, who read the paper expressed the hope that it would be fully discussed and a resolution passed expressing the opinion of the Congress.

Mr. Hinton mentions incidentally the facilities provided by New Issue Services for marketing every kind of novelty. The New Issue Service is certainly a two-edged weapon. While it is indispensable to modern philately, it is open to grave abuse by dishonest governments as it assures a large order for everything they choose to produce. The real remedy appears to lie with collectors who should strike speculative countries off their want lists as soon as they are satisfied that they are being imposed upon.

To meet the present menace to philately, the philatelic press and philatelic societies should address themselves to the examination of the credentials of all recent and contemporary issues, and express and publish their views fearlessly. We need the maximum of publicity. Collectors if well-informed will not pay good money for rubbish. The busy operators in New Europe are like the Bolsheviks who turn out paper money as fast as their printing presses can work and thus discredit the entire currency.

Charkari.

Mr. P. N. D’Souza sends us a variety of 1 anna of this Feudatory State, S. G. No. 34. It is a double print. Almost all the letters are in double form side by side. Considering that this stamp became obsolete in 1905, the discovery is noteworthy.



A German cargo of stamps at an auction.

We are in receipt of an auction catalogue from Zumstein and Co., Berne. This is an old firm of stamp dealers. During the great war, it was less in evidence. To judge from the catalogue to hand, this firm is apparently intent on regaining the importance it once enjoyed among European dealers.

In the preface they announce, that the success which stamp auctioneers in London, Paris and Berlin have acquired, has tempted them to initiate similar sales in Switzerland, and the first International Congress of stamp merchants at Zurich, offers them a suitable opportunity for the sale of the cream of their stock.

The quality of the paper used for the catalogue is of an expensive type, and all the illustrations are superb. Most of the lots are in magnificent condition. The Swiss section alone comprises 200 lots. Then follows a fair sprinkling of rare and early European stamps.

An outstanding feature of the second day's sale are German stamps for Morocco and the Levant. These run in various lots of sets, blocks, hundreds, etc., from No. 501 to No. 1395, that is, 895 lots of the entire sale are set aside for these two places where Germany had opened post offices.

As soon as the European conflagration commenced in 1914, the philatelic journals spread a report that not only would Germany lose her colonies but that her stamps of these places would rise in value.

Before the creation of *Occupation* and *Red Cross* stamps, advertisements in the philatelic journals were groaning under the weight of quotations for stamps of German colonies.

It was even then whispered that Germany had the plates of these stamps, and could turn out any number of them, to keep their colonial stamps going in the philatelic market, even if they lost their colonies.

It is somewhat significant that, in the first auction of Zumstein, the predominant feature should be such a heavy cargo of German stamps. The sale is to take place when there is a gathering of the principal stamp merchants of Europe in Zurich.

The German Levant stamp of 25 piastres over 5 marks has up to now been quoted in catalogues as a rare stamp. In this sale there are 19 lots of this stamp, lots running from blocks of 10 up to blocks of 100. These 19 lots give a total of 2,980 stamps of 25 p. on 5 m. offered at this sale. Some lots of the lower values of this series run to 2,000 stamps, all mint.

Is there a factory at work in Berlin to distribute its produce through the neutral town of Zurich? Or are Zumstein and Co. anxious to relieve themselves of an extraordinarily heavy stock?

The effect of this sale will reduce in a very great degree the value of these stamps; indeed this announcement already sinks them to the level of less than medium and common stamps.

Early Indian Cancellations.

Type 9. United Provinces.
5. Ajmere 1864.

This is on a part entire kindly shown by Dr. Cooper which bears two stamps. One is cancelled in type 9, the other in type 8. The office number is the same in both instances. The date mark is January 6, 1864. This part entire supports the view expressed in the Handbook that, in adopting type 9 in Northern India, the old numbers were retained down to 1864, when renumbering took place.

Dr. Cooper also shows a 4 annas of 1864 with the number $\frac{A}{64}$ in type 8 (ii). This combination has still to be explained.

A further minor novelty from Dr. Cooper is a Scinde Dak with a diamond of dots of 9 rows of 8, in type B, which is of 8 rows of 8.

W. R.

The two annas 1868 British India Telegraph Stamp, Imperforate.

In the June 1920 number of this journal, I had occasion to record the above stamp and stated that the one rupee value was also found imperforate. On looking over "Adhesive Fiscal and Telegraph Stamps of British India" by Crofton and Corfield I find that the following also are known to be imperforate, *viz.*, the eight annas, die I of one rupee, ten rupees and fifty rupees. The two annas imperforate is not included in this book.

K. D. COOPER.

New Issues.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Australia.—The 5d. in a paler shade of brown. The $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. in a deeper blue.

Gambia.—The $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in deep green, and the 1d. in pale rose.

Kedah.—1c. deep warm brown.

Malta.—The 6d. in grey-mauve and bright purple.

Seychelles.—The 25c. has appeared on two shades of yellow paper.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Argentine.—2, 5 and 12c. for internal postage, to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the death of General Manuel Belgrano.

Batoum.—An issue in altered colours, overprinted British occupation, which appeared just before we evacuated Batoum.

Brazil.—A new set of 12 varieties with designs representing industry, aviation, commerce, etc.

Danzig.—Current German stamps overprinted "Freistaat Danzig."

Esthonia.—Two charity stamps, on sale for a few days only, and now obsolete. Surely the charity would have benefited from a longer period of sale!

Hungary.—The word *kir* (royal) is being reintroduced on certain stamps.

In German Land.—A pictorial series.

Latvia.—Four new values on thin white were unwatermarked paper—5, 20, 50 and 75k.

Lichtenstein.—Four stamps, imperforate.

Memel.—French stamps overprinted *Memel* and value in pfennig.

Lithuania.—A "seebeck" issue of eleven values, financed by the Bank of Kovno.

Sweden.—Mr. W. T. Wilson sends for chronicle the 40 öre issued in rolls of 100, and also the 20 öre issued in rolls of 500 to the total number of 50 millions. The latter stamp in deep blue commemorates the 300th anniversary of the date when letters were first taken by post between Sweden and Hamburg.

Bridger and Kay, Ltd.

WE are in receipt of the Price List of British Colonial Postage Stamps (1920-21) of the above firm. To judge from the chronicle of the Price List, they have a splendid stock, used and unused, of the medium and rare stamps, for sale at moderate prices. There are many desirable stamps quoted at tempting prices. Collectors would be consulting their interests, if they sent for a copy of the price list, as it can be had for one shilling.

Extracts.

"In the course of the study of stamp production and its corollary, postal history, it is often necessary to investigate minor clues and theories, based, it may be on no more evidence than a hair-line, a dot, or other consistent flaw.

Without wishing to dogmatise, we consider that the study of *minutiae* is always justifiable, provided that it is regarded as a means to an end and not as an end in itself. Unfortunately, however, there is a class of collector who has no thought for the meaning of a variety, but is nevertheless keen to possess it, and will proudly point to any sort of speck, misprint or other example of bad workmanship as an unlisted "rarity." Perhaps the worst examples of such varieties are freak perforations caused by the accidental folding of the corner of the sheet, or an "offset" caused by over-inking or the placing of one sheet over another that is not thoroughly dry. The type of pseudo-philealist to whom we allude will so far delude himself as to call the latter a "double print," although of course it is nothing of the kind.

To the credit of the publishers of the leading stamp catalogues and lists be it said that such absurdities do not figure in their quotation, but to satisfy a demand that—most unfortunately, as we regard it—the pseudo-philealist has created, some dealers go out of their way to encourage this form of collecting by magnifying every triviality they can find in their stock, with no other object than to make two (or more) varieties grow in their clients' collections where one grew before. This is not only short-sighted in their own interests, but a positive danger to the future of the hobby. Nothing is so conducive to ridicule by the non-collector than the blind collection of "varieties" for the presence of which no adequate reason can be given".—*The Philatelic Magazine*.

Favorable offers for Collectors and Dealers.

<u>Prices in Marks !</u>	<u>Prices in Marks !</u>	
	1	10
Liechtenstein proviseries 1920, 6 values complete
Lettland 1920, 2 charity stamps
Bulgaria , Ferdinand, 4 values complete
Allenstein Vote-stamps, 1st edition complete
2nd
Bavaria , Louis cut complete up to 20 Marks
Germany , Overprint, 1-25, 1-50, 2-50 Marks
Upper Silesia-Plebiscite , 1st edition complete, 11 values
" Sarre " on Bavarian stamps 5 pfennigs to 10 Marks complete
Fiume proviseries, 12 values on letters
Turkey 1919, Memorial stamps for the new Sultan with overprint complete
Ukraine , 32 various overprint stamps
Wurttemberg , 1920 farewell series complete
Slesvig with overprint 1st zone, 1 Ore to 10 Crowns
Servia 1919 Corfu edition, 1 Para. to 1 Dinar

I can supply you with all stamps used and new ones and others per 100 in one set. Prices are figured in Marks. Payment has to be made in cheques on Berlin. I also accept cheques on London, Paris, New York at the daily exchange rate. I charge you 166 Marks for 1 Phind and 45 Marks for 1 Dollar. You may also pay me in paper money. Correspondence in all leading languages. Quickest delivery.

JULIUS PILLER, STAMPS DEALER,
VIENNA XV, HACKONGASSE 20.
GERMAN-AUSTRIA.



The
Philatelic Journal of India.

Vol. XXIV, No. 11.

NOVEMBER.

[1920.]

The Philatelic Society of India.

CHE following has joined the Philatelic Society of India :—

Capt. R. L. Ritchie,
M. C.,
C/o
Messrs. Cox & C.,
Karachi.

Proposed by—
Arthur P.,
Draper.
Seconded by—
Jno. Godinho, Esq.

Notes.

CHE French Government has invited competition for designs for three new types of postage stamps. The artists must either exalt the heroic effort of France in the war, or her historic place in the world. The first designs submitted were all adjudged unsuitable and fresh designs have been called for.

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From the auction room :—

India, 1854—	£.	s.	d.
Die I, 1 anna, strip of 3, unused	...	3	5 0
Die I, 1 anna, strip of 4, unused	...	5	10 0
Die I, 4 annas, pair, used, one defective	...	5	5 0
Die I, $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, blue, block of 12, unused	...	5	7 6

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Our attention has been directed to an interesting flaw in the May and July 1854 printings of the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna of 1854 (plates V and VI in Hausburg). Stamps 11, 35, 59 and 83 show a minute but clear break in the right leg of A in India, just above the horizontal stroke, this being less noticeable however in the July printing. It may probably be assumed that the same feature is to be found in the June, 1854, transfer. It is a small matter, but it may be useful sometimes in fixing the position of a stamp on the sheet with certainty.

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Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. announce that the whole of the 3d. white backs sent to Malta some time ago have been destroyed, none of them having been issued to the public.

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From the same source we learn that the export of stamps from Hungary is prohibited.

This would indicate that the Hungarian Government is weary of the operations of stamp speculators. It must be distinctly annoying to issue, say, a provisional for the convenience of the public, only to find that the entire issue is snatched up by speculators.

* * * * *

The Home journals are warning philatelists against the activities of certain makers of "facsimiles" of valuable stamps. One of these is in Switzerland carrying on the business of the late Fournier, and another, who is in Italy, has started a magazine. *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* writes as follows on this subject :—

"There is a distinct literary flavour about the new forger. He starts his magazine with extracts from Walt Whitman and Goethe—not forgetting one of his own most august aphorisms. The editorial address to his 'most dear and kind readers' is a thoroughly specious but clever bit of work. He claims that he will treat impartially all matters relating to philately, and then goes on to show how all classes of collectors must of necessity purchase his dirty wares.

"The rich man will want them until he can get the genuine article, says the latest forger. The specialist must have them to show the various forgeries that exist (!), and the medium collector and beginner, who cannot hope to get the greatest rarities, will fill up his blank spaces with them. The question is, will he? Not in England, we know, and not abroad, we hope.

"Can nothing be done to suppress this 'fraternity of vagabonds'? Congress has tried and failed, it is true, but they did not go the right way to work. There is only one thing that will put an end to the Fournier tribe, and that is a League of Nations in the philatelic world. If all societies throughout the globe would bind themselves together, swearing on behalf of their members that the facsimile merchants would be ostracised, both socially and in the business world, it would not take long before these rogues would be forced to beg their bread from door to door.

"A 'Philatelic League of Nations' is the very thing we have been striving for for months past. Now for it!"

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The New Zealand Protectorate Islands, Aitutaki, Niue, Tenhrym Islands and Rarotonga have come forward with a Victory set of six stamps in different colours or shades for each island. The designs have no connection with the war, being, the landing of Cook, island steamers at Wharf, bust of Cook, a palm, native dwellings, and view of Rarotonga harbour. And indeed it is difficult to see how the share of these Islands in the victory of the Allies justifies the issue of these special sets. However, thanks largely to the New Issue services, the finances of the various administrations will benefit!

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We are greatly obliged to Mr. A. J. Palethorpe for his interesting history of aerial posts to date printed in another column.

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We are asked to announce that the new red Gibbons Catalogue, which was expected to appear in September, will not be ready until about the end of October.

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Mr. G. D. E. Van Wieren writing in the *Australian Philatelist*, states that there are as many as 30 varieties of perforation in the Waterlow stamps of New Zealand, 1898. He thinks it probable that the printers were experimenting with new machines on this order. He remarks that it is fortunate that Messrs. Waterlow did not print the stamps of many countries situated in the British Empire as, otherwise, specialising in perforations might have a decided check. Mr. Van Wieren recommends united action by philatelic societies with a view to persuading stamp printers in the Empire to adopt a uniform gauge—a clean-cutting 14 all round being suggested as the ideal one both for the collector and general public.

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The 4 as. 1854, Die I.

Mr. Gordon Jones kindly sends the following note accompanying the cover referred to in the note:—

“India, 1854, 4 as., Die I. This Die exists in two states, Die I original state (transfer dated *October 1854*); and in a *worn state* (transfer probably dated *December 1854*) with chignon nearly blank, etc. (Die II came into use after March, 1855 and was used for all 3 settings, *i. e.*, blue lines, $6\frac{1}{2}$ m., apart and $2\frac{1}{2}$ m., apart.)”

The December, 1854, consignment was ready on 13th December; it has hitherto been thought that the 2 lots of October 1854 printing were Die I, 1st state and that the December 1854 lot was Die I, 2nd state. I have a cover with a pair of the 4 as., blue wavy lines, showing Die I, 2nd state, used ‘30th November 1854,’ about a fortnight *before* the December consignment was ready. Therefore this worn die must have been in the second October lot? (Was this 2nd October lot, dated *November 1854*?) Die I, original state, must be rarer than supposed, if it only existed in the 1st October lot of 700 sheets.”

The correspondence quoted in Hausburg shows clearly that 700 sheets were delivered in advance on the 14th *October 1854* to meet an urgent demand. The Deputy Surveyor-General in his letter, dated 14th October 1854 goes on to say that “I am now striking off these labels at the rate of 1,000 sheets per *diem*.” There is a strong presumption that there was no change of stone and that the advance supply on the 14th October, 1854 was merely to meet the urgent demand for stamps of this value. On the 28th October the supply was made up to 170 sheets, and the blocks on the stones were cleaned off (letter dated November 2nd).

The next letter on record on the subject from the Deputy Surveyor-General is dated December 13th, 1854. It runs:—“With reference to your letter 805, dated the 3rd ultimo, calling for 5,000 additional sheets of the 4 as. postage labels, I have the honour to state for your information that 32,829 sheets have been struck off and delivered.****. The blocks on the stones have all been cleaned off.—”

Obviously, the correspondence is incomplete. This letter points to a request for 5,000 sheets on November 3rd. But the ultimate supply is of 32,829 sheets, and there must have been other indents, leading up to the printing of 27,829 additional sheets.

It seems practically certain that a portion of the 32,829 sheets was delivered in November, in compliance with the order for 5,000 sheets, and as the cover, dated 30th November, 1854, was posted at Calcutta, the stamp showing worn die on this cover may have been from the November printing. We know that once the stone was ready, 1,000 sheets a day was the rate of outturn. Whether two transfers were used in November and

December for the supply of 32,829 sheets or only one stone, has still to be determined. And if there are two transfers, it has to be determined if one was in Die II. The above note gives the evidence furnished by the correspondence. The actual facts have to be elicited from the stamps themselves and the correspondence.

Convention States.

WE are indebted to Capt. E. M. Gilbert Lodge for the view of the following interesting curiosities in Jhind and Nabha:—

1. Jhind, one rupee, Queen, with double surcharge, one albino.
2. Nabha, pair of 12 as., Queen, with double surcharge, one albino.

The albino surcharge is very clear on the back of the stamps, but traces on the face are difficult to detect.

Early Indian Cancellations.

Type 1 has been seen with a diamond of dots 11 by 11.

Type 9.

III.—RATNAGIRI IN 1874.

This is spelt Ratnagerry. 111 is the number of Pondicherry in the same type. So the number 111 in type 9 does not necessarily indicate Pondicherry unless more letters are visible in the post office stamp than the final "erry."

90.—Tellicherry (Madras Circle).

The $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, King George, India.

Colonel A. E. Stewart, M. C., kindly sends a block of four of the current half anna which shows the following peculiarities when compared with the normal:—

- (a). Two small white strokes at the extreme right of the shoulder pointing to about "4 o'clock" are missing, and are replaced by solid colour.
- (b). There is much deeper shading, indeed almost solid colour, in front of the chest and at the back of the shoulder.
- (c). The white lines running below the pearls of the crown are short. In the normal they come as far as the second pearl from the end. In the block sent they stop short of the fourth.
- (d). Shading above the eye is heavy and not defined.
- (e). There are heavier dashes between stones in the base band of the crown. In the normal, these lines are very faint.

The block when examined casually has the appearance of a heavy print.

The writer finds that he had placed two copies in his collection as heavy prints and shades, but without close examination.

Is this to be regarded merely as a case of heavy inking or of worn plate? Perhaps it is a combination of the two causes.

W. R.

Philatelic Propaganda.

Mr. D. B. Armstrong's paper on Philatelic Propaganda is reproduced in *Stamps Collecting* of the 14th August and we make a few abstracts for our readers.

Mr. Armstrong begins by laying down the axiom that Philately is the ideal hobby, and starting from this point he argues that "it is our duty and privilege to convince others of its charms and virtues." A phenomenal increase in the number of stamp collectors in the last ten years is ascribed to propaganda. The Congress is urged to see that these efforts are increased and developed until, as it is said is the case in Switzerland, almost every man, woman and child collects stamps in a greater or less degree.

In suggesting the lines of a propaganda scheme, Mr. Armstrong puts forward as the first objective schoolboy recruiting—but not merely encouragement to collect, but to advise and train the young collector in the way he should go. Informal stamp meetings might be held among the scholars. A scheme is suggested for teaching history and geography by means of stamps, together with the provision of text books specially written and illustrated with actual specimens of common stamps. Free distributions of cheap stamps with pamphlets describing them and indicating points of interest is also proposed.

The next step would be the establishment of junior sections of existing societies to catch boy collectors when they leave school and maintain their interest.

Next, we have lantern lectures, and the promotion of exhibitions and competitions—the inclusion of philatelic exhibits in local museums and art galleries—the wide-spread issue of pamphlets emphasizing the human interest of stamp collecting—the cinema—activity in the Press.

It is suggested that the Philatelic Congress should set up a Bureau of Philatelic Propaganda in charge of a Secretary, for the purpose of supplying advice, literature, lantern slides, news paragraphs, etc.

The scheme would be mainly dependent upon voluntary contributions, and the Congress would look specially to the stamp trade for support.

The subject is receiving very strong support from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' *Stamp Collecting* and other journals, and a special lengthy appeal has been made to the International Stamp Dealers' Conference in Switzerland by Mr. Derek Ingram.

Collectors as a body will endorse at once what Mr. Armstrong says about the attraction and fascination of stamp collecting. But they are, in our opinion, quite content with the present rate of expansion. Collectors recognise that stamp collecting is not the only hobby and that each hobby attracts, and is suited to different temperaments. They would be the last to take up the attitude that "there is nothing like leather." And we question strongly if they would care to be identified with widespread public propaganda such as is outlined by Mr. Armstrong. We cannot think that the teaching of geography and history by means of stamps will ever be considered seriously by educational authorities.

It is legitimate for dealers to advertise their wares and to push their sale. In the prosecution of their primary object, which is to make profits, they will supply whatever the collector will take. Their interest is, in point of fact, concerned most intimately with the permanent well-being of philately, but this is apt to be obscured, in our opinion, by the consideration of immediate profit. We may instance the manner in which dealers as a whole push the sale of the large quantity of rubbish which has been placed on the market in the last two years. Their organs as a rule hail each new superfluous or speculative issue with paeans of praise and admiration. Of the critical examination of these issues there is very little indeed. Yet these 'Seebeck' issues can only do harm to philately in the end. Those who have bought them will lose money and will probably abandon stamp collecting in disgust. There is evidence that experienced collectors are leaving 'Neuropes' severely alone. When the new recruits who absorb them gain their experience they will be sadder and wiser, and many of them will turn their backs on philately for good. There has been a tremendous boom in 'Neuropes' and, as any one can see, a very large proportion of the issues can have no future. When the bubble is pricked, philately will probably come into some measure of ridicule and disrepute.

It is for the societies representing the body of collectors, and having an interest in the permanent well-being of philately, to guard philately against the attacks of speculators who float issues and rarities merely to loot the collector. This is, in our view, the urgent duty of the Philatelic Congress, in which collectors, dealers and scribes would do well to combine; and this putting of our house in order would appear to be a more urgent matter than propaganda.

We think we are right in saying that stamp collecting appeals as strongly to schoolboys now as it ever did in the past. Most men will admit that they collected as schoolboys, but many will add that they stopped collecting when they left school, having generally got together a certain number of common stamps. In many cases, picturesque catch penny designs have predominated, and we surmise that a considerable proportion of those who have abandoned collecting have done so when the utter worthlessness which underlies most of these pretty pictures has been borne on them.

We would leave things as they are in schools, looking however to parents and relatives of young collectors to guide schoolboys and to show them what to seek and *what to avoid*. But, at the next stage, we cordially agree that societies should start junior sections for young collectors. With attractive facilities provided, the movement would, spread widely without our going into the highways and byways to beat up recruits. It is, in our opinion, inconsistent with the dignity of the hobby to take this line of action.

Philatelic exhibits in public galleries will also do good. Lastly, we come to the Press. Here also we are in accord, but we should like to see a just and critical attitude and not indiscriminate booming of any and every new issue. The latter may stimulate trade for the present, but it is only the former that will ensure the future of philately.

W. R.

The Aerial Post.

TRANSLATED FROM THE "MADRID PHILATELICO" BY A. J. PALETHORPE.

In order to speak of the aerial post which at present is arousing so much interest throughout the world. I consider it unnecessary to go back to the origin and slow development of aerial locomotion, and to mention Icarus, Leonardo da Vinci, Montgolfier and so many others whose names are recorded in the annals of the conquest of the air. We will

simply say that for the purposes of postal transport from the most remote times up to our day, all the methods of locomotion which have been successively developed have been employed. It is, therefore, natural that now, when aeroplanes and dirigible airships have reached a certain state of perfection, they should also be utilized for postal transport.

The first aeroplane which transported correspondence was one which in February 1911 was piloted by Mons Piequet in India, during the Exhibition of the United Provinces, held at Allahabad. There was installed within the precincts of this Exhibition a Post Office, in which the public could place letters to be transmitted by the aeroplane mentioned. There was used for the purpose a particular postmark of large size with a design representing a flying aeroplane, but a special stamp was not prepared.

It may at once be stated that the aerial flight was not very long as it was comprised between the Exhibition and Naini a distance of about five miles, whence the letters went to the usual mail trains. In the same year of 1911, in September, during the coronation festivities of King George, there was also established an aerial post between London and Windsor organized by Captain Windham, there being also used for the obliteration of the current stamps a special postmark.

The first aerial post for which a special stamp was issued was an experimental service organized during the war between Rome and Turin. This occurred in May, 1917, and the Italian stamp for express letters of 25 centesimi, rose, received the following surcharge:

ESPERIMENTO POSTA AEREA,
MAGGIO 1917,
TORINO-ROMA, ROMA-TORINO.

A little later, in the same year, another Italian aerial post was organized with the object of counteracting the danger of enemy submarines, carrying correspondence between Naples and Palermo by means of hydroplanes. For this service a stamp of 40c. violet for express letters was surcharged in the following manner:

25 CENTESIMI,
IDROVOLANTE,
NAPOLI-PALERMO-NAPOLI.

Another aerial service was organized simultaneously between Civita-Vecchia and Sardinia.

In 1918, Austria and Hungary organized aerial posts: Austria issued three stamps with the surcharge FLUGPOST, and Hungary issued two, surcharged: REPULO POSTA. These posts were of short duration the greater part of the aviators employed in the said service being victims of unfortunate accidents.

In May, 1918, there was opened an aerial line in the United States of North America between the cities of New York, Philadelphia and Washington. The machines employed were of the Curtiss type, with motors of 150 horse-power, Hispano Swiss, carrying from 150 to 200 kilos of correspondence.

The cost of franking was expensive, as it amounted to a quarter dollar for a weight of one ounce. The correspondence thus transmitted was delivered to the addressee within two hours of being posted at the office of origin, whilst by the normal route, the delivery was effected in five hours.

There was issued a very handsome special stamp, with a coloured frame encircling a vignette of an aeroplane in blue, of the value of 24 cents.

The aerial postal service, on account of its rapidity, thence forward acquired a great vogue in North America, and, in view of the popularity which it acquired the Administration of Posts reduced the tariffs from 24 to 16, and to 6 cents., and ultimately to 2 cents. only. In the United States the postal service is not considered as a source of income for the Treasury, except as an indirectly retributive service.

Countries to which the reduction of the cost of the aerial post applies are : Bahamas, Canada, Cuba, Mexico and the Lesser Antilles. In Switzerland an aerial postal service was established, between Zurich and Lausanne, with an intermediate stop at Berne. This was in the month of May, 1919. The stamp, figure of Helvetia, of 50 centimes, was surcharged with the design of a flying machine for the franking of the correspondence of this aerial line. In France also there was organized in the course of the year 1919 various services of the aerial post, for example, between Paris and London, and Paris and Brussels, as also between Toulouse and Rabat (Morocco). Accordingly we read in *L. Echo de latim-brologie* that the French tariffs are the following :—

Weights up to 200 grammes are accepted for this purpose. Over and above the ordinary postal rates, the following sur-taxes are charged :—

	Francs.
Up to 20 grammes . . . . .	... 1·25
From 20 to 100 grammes . . . . .	... 2·50
From 100 to 200 . . . . .	... 3·75

The ordinary stamps are used being stamped with the word *Aviation*. For correspondence intended for England there is paid a sur-tax of 3 francs for each 20 grammes.

Belgium under the German occupation established numerous aerial lines, the ordinary stamps being stamped with black or blue lines, and inscription PAR AVION.

In 1915 also, there was in Germany in the Rhine region, an aerial post, with a round postmark, which read : LUFTPOST AM RHEIN-DUSSELDORF.

It was in 1919 that postal transport by air was inaugurated in Mesopotamia, and a postmark prepared which read :

POSTAL SERVICE.—AERIAL POST,
BAGHDAD-DELHI,
PER HANDLEY-PAGE AEROPLANE.

The postal aerial service was established in England during the railway strike at the beginning of the autumn of 1919 the aeroplane carriers circulating correspondence between London, Birmingham, Bristol, Glasgow, Manchester and Newcastle. The sur-tax for franking was 2 shillings per ounce.

On the 6th August, 1919, Captain Harry Butler flew from Adelaide to the Peninsula of Yorke (Australia) carrying 20 kilos of correspondence.

In Japan also there was established an aerial post service between Tokio and Osaki the ordinary stamps of $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 sen. being used surcharged with a silhouette of an aeroplane in red for the first, and in blue for the second. The printing of this surcharge was so small that in the central office at Tokio there was not left even a single stamp of these, half an hour after the opening of the office-wickets.

We read in *Le XX. eme Siecle* of Brussels that the Belgian Minister for the Colonies is going to create new stamps for the franking of letters and packets transported to the Congo by the air-way. There will be stamps of 0·50, 1 and 2 and francs of different designs and colours, reproducing views of the colony.

Not even Spanish America wishes to remain behind the rest of the countries in what concerns the aerial post. In Buenos Ayres there is being organized, with Italian and French machines, a vast aerial service, which will comprise not only the districts of the Argentine but also Uruguay and Bolivia, and the adjoining territories of Brazil. In Chile there already exists an aerial post between Santiago and Chile (Valparaiso ?), with English machines. The English Handley-Page Company has obtained from the Brazilian and Argentine Governments, the concession to exploit an aerial service between Pernambuco and Buenos Ayres, with stops at the various towns, situated on this flight-route of some 4,000 kilometres. In Peru the aerial service is organized between the most southerly point of the coast (Tacna) and the most northerly of the interior (Iquitos). In Mexico an English Company is installing an aerial service for transport and for posts, between Mazatlan (centre of the western coast) and the mining districts of the centre, very little accessible, because mountainous, on a flight-route of 300 kilometres.

But not only is it on the different continents that the establishing of aerial transports is being arranged, it is also thought to traverse the oceans with them. As our readers are aware, in the spring of 1919, the British Aviators, H. G. Hawker and K. Mackenzie-Grieve, arranged to cross the Atlantic Ocean, in an aeroplane, from Newfoundland to England. They carried, strapped to one side of the machine, a mail bag with letters, amongst them a message from the Governor of the Island to His Majesty King George, and one of greeting from the people of Newfoundland to the English nation. Some 200 stamps, 3 cents, brown, (Caribou) of Newfoundland, served for the franking of this correspondence. They were surcharged with the inscription :

FIRST TRANS-ATLANTIC AIR POST, APRIL 1919.

The aeroplane mentioned fell into the sea in the middle of the journey, and was recovered by the North American Steamer, Lake Charlottesville, the 23rd of May, the mail bag being salved and being sent to England.

Shortly afterwards the English Aviators, Captain John Alcock and Lieutenant Whitten Brown flew the entire distance from Newfoundland to Ireland, also carrying correspondence. The letters referred to were franked by means of the stamp of 15 cents, 1897, with the surcharge.

TRANS-ATLANTIC AIR POST, 1919, ONE DOLLAR.

These stamps also are very rare and brought a good return. An American, Mr. Raynham, has organized a Trans-Atlantic aerial post to England, and for this service there has been made a sufficiently large issue of stamps of 1, 2, 3 and 24 cents (Caribou), of covers with a stamp of 3 cents, and of post-cards of 1 cent, all surcharged with :

TRANS-ATLANTIC AIR POST, MARTINSYDE, RAYNHAM, MORGAN.

Ultimately, flights were undertaken from England to India and Australia, and certainly within a short time the aerial post will be universal, and there will not be a region on the globe which it does not reach. In Tunis the aerial post is being organized, and temporarily there have already been issued* stamps intended for this service.

L'Auto, of Paris, of 15th December, published the following interesting information :—

"We have recently been enabled to converse with Mons. Victor Cambon, the well-known economist, on his return from Berlin, and herewith we give what he has imparted to us about the actual state of aeronautics in Germany: "I come from Berlin and have the duty to inform you what is passing in the country of the 'Boches.'

* Tunis, 1906, surcharged with a double-winged design, and Poste Aerienne: 30 c. on 35 c. (Ruins of Hadrian's aqueduct), pale-brown and grey-green.—Translator.

The effort on behalf of aviation is very considerable there, and the principal German towns are, at the present time, connected with each other by lines of aeroplanes and dirigibles. The aeroplanes amply carry up to 10 persons, comfortably installed in the spacious berths, and the services are effected with extraordinary regularity. Each large city is provided with an aero-station, which comprises every imaginable, ultra-modern, installation *and a clock-indicator of the aerial services.* The Germans are extending their lines to Sweden and Denmark. Shortly, when Germany is sufficiently provided with gasoline her aerial lines will extend themselves throughout the whole world, and will even cross the oceans. The dirigibles of the Zeppelin type are of an unheard of comfort, and yield the greatest services. Needless to tell you her ports of departure and arrival are models of their kind. In Germany the education of the public in what pertains to aerial navigation appears much more advanced than in France. From the point of view of practical aviation, we are not content to remain behind ourselves: we have already delayed. It is our duty to make a very great effort, and without losing one minute more."

And adds *L'Auto*:—"The preceding observations are, unfortunately, the exact expression of the truth, and what is sadder, is, that it makes it evident, at the end of the year 1919, that in France, aviation is in a condition of lethargy."

According to a communication from the aerial station of Dresden, there are organized, and being organized, the following aerial lines for the Postal Service:—

Dresden, Leipzig, Berlin, and *vice versa.*

Dresden, Breslau, Berlin, and *vice versa.*

Dresden, Plauen, and *vice versa.*

Wurzburg, Frankfort-on-Main, and *vice versa.*

Leipzig, Plauen, Hof, Nuremberg, Munich, and *vice versa.*

The rapidity of the service is such that, for example, the distance from Breslau to Frankfort is traversed in one day.

Extracts.

False Pretences.—"It is deplorable that every professional repairer of stamps does not place a printed guarantee on the adhesives he mends. Why does he not do so? To quote from the frank explanation made by one repairer: 'I have a dealer-customer who is constantly sending me stamps to be repaired. These are invariably stamps which in perfect condition would bring high prices. As an instance, he sent me a copy worth \$100 originally, but a corner was missing and he could sell it for only \$5 or \$6. He was willing to pay me \$5 to supply the missing corner so that the average collector would think the stamp was perfect. This dealer told me that his customers positively would not buy any stamp which had a statement on the back saying it was a repaired copy.'

"The inference is an obvious one—and it accounts for the many repaired specimens reposing in collections to-day in America and abroad.

"The expert repairer has his profession down to a science. He can mend so cleverly that the customary tests applied to stamps under suspicion will not disclose anything wrong. The rejuvenated copies can be soaked, immersed in benzine or other liquid, or boiled, and nothing happens to reveal what has been done. Because this is so, the need is emphatic for adoption universally of a trade practice of placing a printed statement on the back of every repaired stamp."—*Scott's Monthly Journal.*

A Royal Philatelist—“The King of Spain, now on a visit to London, is one of the several reigning Sovereigns whose predilection for stamp collecting has gained for it the title of ‘the king of hobbies, and the hobby of kings.’ His interest in the pastime is a keen one, and his collections embrace not only the extensive stamp issues of Spain and her colonies, but those of France and Portugal also. Some years ago, on the occasion of his visit to the Court of Lisbon, special printings of a number of obsolete Portuguese and Portuguese colonial stamps were made with the express object of making up a complete series for presentation to King Alfonso. To this day these stamps are familiarly known to philatelists as the King of Spain Reprints.”—*The Australian Philatelist.*”

* * * * *

New Issues.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Aitutaki.—The “Penny Universal” of New Zealand overprinted “Aitutaki” in black.

Gold Coast.—½d. in deep dull green and 1s. in dull black and jet black.

Rhodesia.—6d. bright blue, p. 14, and 5s., yellow-green, p. 15.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Batoum.—Two labels, imperf. two inches high by one inch wide, “Tree” type, overprinted “British occupation.”

Belgian Congo.—Four aerial stamps, the design being an Aeroplane flying over the Congo. Values—50 c., 1, 2 and 5 francs.

Belgium.—65c. with view of Termonde Town Hall for Express letters.

Brazil.—A new 500r., p. $13 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

Crimea.—A 50 Kopec stamp by General-Wrangel for postal and fiscal purposes. In brown on orange. A large label showing the Russian Imperial Eagle on a shield charged with a Greek Cross.

Denmark.—80., grey; 250., brown and black; 700., brown and green; 900., brown and red; and 5kr., bright purple.

Hedjaz.—The $\frac{1}{5}$ piastre, 5 mil and 1 piastre overprinted “T” in a circle and with an Arabic character, for Postage Dues.

Iceland.—An official issue.

Memal.—The German current series overprinted “Memalgebiet.”

New Hebrides.—The 1s., 2s. and 5s., values surcharged “One Penny.” The 25c. and 50c. of the French series surcharged 5c. and 10c. respectively.

Thrace.—The current Greek series overprinted with an inscription signifying “Greek Administration of Thrace.”



Favorable offers for Collectors and Dealers.

<u>Prices in Marks !</u>	<u>Prices in Marks !</u>	
	1	10
Liechtenstein proviseries 1920, 6 values complete	80	720
Lettland 1920, 2 charity stamps	4	35
Bulgaria, Ferdinand, 4 values complete	3-50	30
Allenstein Vote-stamps, 1st edition complete	70	630
2nd	30	250
Bavaria, Louis cut complete up to 20 Marks	75	700
Germany, Overprint, 1-25, 1-50, 2-50 Marks	16	140
Upper Silesia-Plebiscite, 1st edition complete, 11 values	40	350
" Sarre " on Bavarian stamps 5 pfennigs to 10 Marks complete	400	3,700
Fiume proviseries, 12 values on letters	60	500
Turkey 1919, Memorial stamps for the new Sultan with overprint complete	950	9,000
Ukraina, 32 various overprint stamps	200	1,800
Wurttemberg, 1920 farewell series complete	32	280
Slesvig with overprint 1st zone, 1 Ore to 10 Crowns	170	1,500
Servia 1919 Corfu edition, 1 Para. to 1 Dinar	15	120

I can supply you with all stamps used and new ones and others per 100 in one set. Prices are figured in Marks. Payment has to be made in cheques on Berlin. I also accept cheques on London, Paris, New York at the daily exchange rate. I charge you 166 Marks for 1 Phind and 45 Marks for 1 Dollar. You may also pay me in paper money. Correspondence in all leading languages. Quickest delivery.

JULIUS PILLER, STAMPS DEALER,
VIENNA XV, HACKONGASSE 20.
GERMAN-AUSTRIA.



The
Philatelic Journal of India.

Vol. XXIV, No. 12.

DECEMBER.

[1920.]

The Philatelic Society of India.

CHE following have joined the Philatelic Society of India :—

Revd. John A. Gomez,
Kandivli,
Borovli P. O.,
Pombay.

E. Brunetti, Esq.
Indian Museum,
Calcutta.

Proposed by—
Jno. Godinho, Esq.
Seconded by—
W. Renouf, Esq.

Proposed by—
G. Arnold, Esq.
Seconded by—
Jno. Godinho, Esq.

Notes.

CHE United States have adopted rules for the posting of matter in bulk without stamps, as, for example, where a firm posts a large number of journals or circulars. This system obtains already in Great Britain and India, and its extension in other countries is probably only a question of time.

* * * * *

A sheet of the new 65 centimes, Belgium, with a view of Termonde Town Hall, has been found with centre inverted. The discovery was made at Ghent, but only after 20 copies out of the 25 making up the sheet had been sold. Many of the unused copies will not appear again, and this variety will be of the greatest rarity.

* * * * *

Lichtenstein has recently issued a very lengthy series of picturesque stamps. The *Bulletin Mensuel* of Messrs. Champien remarks that it is rumoured that Lichtenstein will shortly adopt the Swiss currency. In that event, a new issue will doubtless be needed. These recent Lichtenstein issues have a poor status.

* * * * *

We have received an exchange copy of the first number of the *Western India Philatelic Review*, published at Bombay by Mr. B. J. H. Somake for the Wholesale Stamp Agency. The first number is full of news, and we wish our contemporary a long and useful career! That philately is extending its influence in India is evidenced by the ever-increasing number of dealers.

Mr. Somake warns collectors of the large number of forgeries of Bushires and Baghdads. Of Bushires he has seen a very dangerous forgery which is practically identical with the original types, except for differences in spacing. The forgeries appear on original covers, with genuine postmarks, or with exact reproductions of genuine postmarks. Some covers have Censor labels attached. It is of course quite easy to pass a forged overprint through the post, for the postal staff have no time for even a casual examination of stamps used, even if the majority of them were competent to detect forgeries

Collectors of all War and Peace overprints will have magnificent opportunities for the exercise of their philatelic judgment in steering clear of forgeries, for an overprint is a comparatively easy thing to imitate. Unless one has the genuine overprint as a guide, one is easily deceived.

We learn from the *Western India Philatelic Review* that a few years ago an enterprising dealer in India tendered to the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs for all stamps used on telegrams, offering some thousands of rupees every six months. It is needless to say that the offer was rejected. Under standing orders, these stamps are supposed to be burnt after a certain period. But in spite of these orders there is heavy leakage, and thousands of rupees worth of used stamps have come on the market. To prevent this, all stamps used for telegrams of the value of one rupee and upwards at the Calcutta office are issued punched. We agree with our contemporary that it is advisable and necessary to issue similar orders for the whole of India. Stamps used telegraphically have no value whatever in a collection of postage stamps and the illicit traffic in these by officials should be stopped. We fear that 99 out of 100 stamps of the value of 10 rupees and upwards in collections have been used for telegraph or fiscal purposes. And these have been acquired by their owners at high prices!

We are glad to see the appearance of "Indian Letters" in the *Stamp Lover*, by Captain Gilbert Lodge, R. E., one of our members. These letters should do much to stimulate interest in Indian stamps. On the subject of Native States' stamps, Captain Lodge writes as follows:—

"There are untold fields of philatelic joy to explore in "Native States." I am mildly dabbling in the 1877-1886 issues of Soruth at present, and I find it a most fascinating study. It is often objected that the inscriptions in native type cannot be understood by the average collector—five minutes' study of a stamp guided by an expert will enable a collector knowing nothing of native characters to memorise the inscription. I have got together a fairly good representative collection of early Indian Native States on entires, and they are most interesting in appearance. Incidentally early, Native States are, in many of the countries, extremely scarce and not at all easily come by."

With the exception of scandals like those of Kishengarh and Bundi the Kashmir and other reprints, and the tangle of Hyderabad perforations, Feudatory States issues

are indeed most attractive to the philatelic student. And, as Mr. Godinho pointed out some years ago, nearly all these States were free originally from any suspicion of issuing stamps so as to raise money from collectors.

* * * * *

In the same letter, Captain Gilbert Lodge adverts to the Indian import duty of 7½ per cent. on stamps, which causes a great deal of inconvenience and annoyance and must lead to a restriction of business with English and foreign stamp dealers. At present, one has to pay import duty on the entire approval selection, despite the fact that only a small proportion of the stamps are purchased. The matter should be represented to the Government of India. It is not practicable for the Customs officials to check sales and merely to charge on sales, and the only solution would be the exclusion of stamps from the customs tariff. The loss to Government would not be appreciable. Some years ago, our Society put in a very strong representation but with no success.

* * * * *

We notice in the *Stamp Club Journal* that Lt.-Col. A. E. Stewart was to give a display of "India" at the fortnightly evening meeting of the Stamp Club on the 4th November. These fortnightly meetings with a bourse, auction and a paper or display offer a very attractive programme.

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We are in receipt of the first number, New Series, of the *Stamp Collectors' Monthly Circular*, edited by Mr. D. B. Armstrong. This is in continuation of the oldest stamp journal, the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine*, founded in 1864. In his opening article, Mr. Armstrong writes on "the canker of commercialism" in philately. He fears that the mercenary element which has come rapidly to the front, threatens to eventually reign supreme. Speculation is certainly too much with us. We want to see very much less of the operator who buys to-day, merely to sell as soon as he can do so at a profit. The true collector is by no means indifferent to a bargain or to the appreciation of his stamps, but he collects primarily for pleasure and instruction, and he has no intention of selling unless special circumstances compel him to do so. However, the prevalence of speculators is one of the after effects of the war, and we may look for an improvement as more settled times and markets are established. In the same way, we want to see less of speculative issues.

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In a note in the *Stamp Collectors' Monthly Circular* on Stamp Market prospects, a return to old stamps and modern colonials is predicted. A quite sensational boom in rare old Europeans is ascribed to the desire of every one who has money to convert it into jewelry, antiques, etc., which at the moment are said to be safer than cash. The view is expressed that present abnormal prices in old Europeans will not be maintained. Interest is being taken in such side lines as proofs, essays, locals and philatelic literature.

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Leading features of the first number of the *Monthly Circular* are excellent articles on Mecca stamps, and on early Barbados. The paper, printing and get-up are all of the best, as befits a hobby magazine. The subscription is 4d. monthly or 5s. per annum, from 87 Emmanuel Road, London, S. W. 12.

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From the same journal we learn that in the period which elapsed between the proclamation of the independence of the Hedjaz, and the introduction of the Mecca stamps, all postage charges were prepaid in cash, and letters were impressed with a hand-stamp mark composed of the Arabic letters "T. S." Examples of these are worth hunting for, and same may perhaps be obtainable in India in centres which have correspondence with Arabia.

We notice that more attention is being given to inverted watermarks in Auction Reports.

As regards Indian inverted watermarks, it is interesting to note that the watermark on the 1854 issue is not in a constant position. Taking any given position as normal, the watermark is to be found reversed, inverted and inverted and reversed. This feature is easily recognised on pairs or larger pieces showing part of the central design of the watermark. Obviously, the printers did not trouble to place the sheet on the stone in any particular position and it was not necessary for them to do so. These inverted watermarks, etc., are not likely to engage the attention of collectors.

From the auction room :—

	£. s.
India, 1854, die 2, 1 a, dull red, block of 8 unused	... 4 10
Ditto 2 as., pale green, block of 8, mint	... 8 0
* * * * *	* * * * *

We publish this month a further instalment on the Indian Post Office in War. This brings the record down to 1911-12, the eve of the Great War. Our contemporary, the Indian Post and Telegraph Magazine, has not dealt with this subject as yet.

Mr. D. B. Armstrong writing on the stamp market in *the Australian Philatelist* says that over catalogue is freely asked and given for any thing really fine in the old line-engraved issues, but medium stamps of all kinds are in little demand. The boom in New Europe is over, and collectors are returning more and more to the older and more staple classes of stamps. War stamps seem to have settled down for the time being at round about current catalogue, and are unlikely to go higher yet awhile. Prices at auctions are less sensational than they were six months ago.

The Distribution of the 1 a. pointed bust. 1854.

With regard to the theory that this variety was only issued to the Bengal and Madras Presidencies, we chronicled two copies used in Northern India in our March, 1920, number. Since then, we have seen more copies bearing the Northern India cancellation. In all, we have seen 8 or 9 instances, and with various office numbers. Copies used in the Northern India Circle are certainly quite rare, but the above result of the experience of only one observer establishes beyond doubt that a certain number of sheets were sent to Post Offices in Northern India, and the point needs no further investigation.

Thus far only one copy has been reported as used in the Bombay Circle.

W. R.

Scinde Dawks.

AFEW months ago we published a warning by Mr. Gordon Jones against recent forgeries of the blue stamp, made by painting white copies in blue. It is well-known that there are many forgeries of this stamp, some better than others, but all dangerous. Before buying, purchasers would do well to obtain expert advice, or to compare with known genuine copies. Hausburg mentions forgeries on laid paper, whereas the genuine stamps are never on laid paper. Again, some forgeries have a single outer circle. The position of the letters in the outer circular band with reference to the lines of the central design, and with reference to the letters of ANNA, should also be checked with great care. We may note that all the stamps were from one die.

As regards the sequence of the colours, Hausburg accepted Mr. Punthakey's conclusions that the "brittle vermilion wafers" came first. These had a very short career owing to their brittle nature. The white came next, but were also found somewhat unsatisfactory as the stamp did not show up against the paper of the envelope. Last of all came the blue.

Mr. Punthakey based his conclusions on dated letters and envelopes and he is on very firm ground. It is curious however to notice how he is supported by the evidence of the cancellations as given at pages 6, 7 of Early Indian Cancellations. Mr. Punthakey is also the authority for what is known about the cancellations. The red stamp is only found with the cancellation diamond of dots 8 by 8, which appears to be one of the original cancellations for the Scinde District Dak. It is not found with cancellations H and I, which were All-India and Bombay circle cancellations introduced in 1854 and 1855 respectively. The blue stamp is found with four out of nine cancellations, whereas the white is found with all nine. Of the four cancellations seen on blue stamps, two are H and I, the two latest. As far as it goes, this supports the view that the blue came last and followed the white.

While on the subject of these stamps, it is interesting to remark that they only entitled a letter "to free transit throughout Scinde" (Hausburg, p. 84).

The vermilion or red stamp was embossed on a paper wafer, and is always found round. As the first supply was of 10,000 stamps, it is fair to assume that there were all red and that the next supply was white. Seeing that only one cancellation, the diamond of dots 8 by 8, is found on the red stamp, may one not infer that this was the first cancellation and that it was issued originally to all post offices in Scinde?

The Indian Post Office in War—(continued).

THE AFGHAN WAR, 1878-80.

DURING the Afghan Campaign of 1878-79-80, European Postal Officers* were sent in charge of the Field Post Offices which accompanied the moveable columns under Generals Sir Donald Stewart and Sir Frederick Roberts, and with the Peshawar Column. Parts of Afghanistan remained in our occupation for a considerable time. We have seen a cover from Candahar bearing an Indian stamp so we may assume that Indian stamps were issued for use in certain conditions. It is not known if letters of soldiers were "postage free." It is probable that special cancellation marks were sent with the field post offices.

INDIAN CONTINGENT IN MALTA AND CYPRUS, 1878.

We excerpt the following remarks regarding the sojourn of Indian troops in Malta and Cyprus in 1878 :—

"In 1878, during the Russo-Turkish War, it seemed possible to the British Government that England might in the end be drawn into the conflict and it was deemed expedient to obtain help from India. A force of about 5,000 Indian troops under the command of Major-General Ross was despatched from Bombay to Malta in response to the demand from Home. At the instance of the military authorities a postal staff was selected to accompany the force. The arrangements were made under the direction of the Postmaster-General, Bombay, and all correspondence from India for the members of the Force was sent to the care of the Presidency Postmaster, Bombay, Indian inland rates being charged. From Malta to India the European rate of postage prevailed. After the island of Cyprus was ceded to Great Britain by Turkey, the Indian contingent was sent to occupy it, and the postal staff remained there until its return to India."

EGYPTIAN EXPEDITIONS, 1882 AND 1885.

Postal sections accompanied both contingents from India. Postage in both directions was according to the foreign rate from India to Egypt. Money orders were allowed for the first time in the 1882 expedition, and savings bank business was first transacted by the Suakim Field Post Office in 1885.

Burmese War, 1885.	Miranzai, 1891.
Pishin, 1885.	Wuntho, 1891.
Sikkim, 1888.	Isazai, 1892.
Black Mountain, Hazara, 1888 and 1891.	Kurrum, 1892.
Chin Hills, 1889.	Wano, 1892.
Zhob Valley, 1890.	Abor, 1894.
Manipur, 1891.	Waziristan, 1894.
	Chitral, 1895.

This was followed by a lengthy occupation of the Swat Valley, and the number of Field Post Offices was increased as the operations extended.

Suakim, 1896.—A camel *dak* was worked from the base at Suakim to Tokar.

Malakand, 1897.	Tirah Expedition, October, 1897.
Mohmand Field Force, 1897.	Tochi Expedition, 1897.
Buner Field Force, 1897.	Swat Valley Column, 1898.
	Mishmi Expedition, 1898.

CHINA EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, 1900.

"In 1900 at the request of the Home Government, a Force entitled 'The China Expeditionary Force' was mobilised in India, for service in China, under the command of General Sir A. Gaselee. The first intimation of the despatch of the army was received on the 29th June, 1900. This, however, referred only to one Brigade of troops of all arms, but on the 25th of June, intimation was received that a Force of two Brigades with Divisional troops were under orders for China.

"At first it was decided to fit out 12 field post offices to accompany the Force. By the end of August 1900 the Force in China was strengthened by a Cavalry Brigade, one Infantry Brigade and three large coolie corps and the postal staff had to be supplemented."

"This was the first occasion that a large postal establishment had to be sent out with a military expedition overseas in a foreign hostile country, to serve a Force of over 37,000 men stationed at various places from Shanghai to Taku and Taku to Pekin."

The Base offices were at Linkungtao (Wei Hai Wei), afterwards transferred to Hongkong, and at Tientsin (31st October, 1900). Gradually, 20 field post offices were opened which were designated by numbers. All ports of postal work were undertaken except insurance.

"The postage stamps were overprinted with the letters 'C.E.F', *i.e.*, 'China Expeditionary Force.' The surcharged stamps came into use about the middle of August 1900. In order to confine the use of field offices to the members of the Force, orders were issued that our postage stamps should not be sold except to soldiers and officers in uniform. The rates of postage fixed for all purposes were those in force in India, the postage to India being reckoned at Indian inland rates. The British soldiers serving in front were allowed (within reasonable limits) to send their letters home free of postage, the deficient postage being debited to Army Funds."

The stamps were sold at 4 cents to the anna. But the dollar being at 1s. 11d., the anna on this basis was worth 4 cents and a fraction. So an overprint was necessary to avoid the chance of the stamps being remitted to India at a profit.

Tibet, 1903.—There were about 5,000 troops and the same number of followers on this expedition. The farthest point reached was Lhassa. The mails had to be conveyed over a road of 456 miles. In all, 22 field post offices were opened.

Somaliland, 1903-4.—Operations against the Mad Mullah.

N.-W. Frontier, 1908.—Field postal arrangements were made on a small scale for the Bazar Valley and the Mohmand Expeditions.

Abor Expedition, 1911-12.

Chamba State.

THE following are the totals of Georgian stamps overprinted "Chamba State" and supplied to the State on the 21st of October, 1919 ;

ORDINARY.

3	pies, slate-grey	...	...	...	...	2,560
2	anna, green	...	...	...	...	2,560
1	," anniline carmine	...	...	...	...	5,120
2	annas, mauve	...	...	...	...	512
3	," orange-brown	...	...	...	...	768
4	," olive	...	...	...	...	2,560
6	," olive-bistre	...	...	...	...	512
8	," purple	...	...	...	...	1,024
12	," dull claret	...	...	...	...	768
1	rupee, green and brown	...	...	...	...	1,024

SERVICE.

3 pies, slate-grey	...	...	...	2,560
$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, green ...	...	...	...	10,240
1 " anniline carmine	...	...	...	15,360

J. G.

Persia.

THE following refers to Col. A. E. Stewart's article in our August, 1919, issue.

I return, herewith, the two 1876 issue, about which you ask my opinion. I have carefully examined these and have come to the conclusion that they are forgeries. I see these so-called "official imitations" are mentioned in the P. J. I. of Jan., 1920, by Mr. Arnold, but personally I have never heard of them before. I have, however, a 1 shahi of the same type in my collection (with the tie pin) which I had not noticed before. I have shewn them to one of the largest stamp-dealers here and he informs me that among his numerous stock of this issue he did not find a single one of this type, and was of the same opinion as myself, that they were forgeries. A point to remark is that the postmark on each of them appears to be a palpable forgery. I cannot, however, see why these should be forged as the complete set of 4 costs only about Rs. 2 here. I am, however, open to correction, and there may have been official imitations made. The only official imitations I had heard of were the ones of the 1879-80 issue with the shorter aigrette on the hat and the Shah looking down instead of up.

Perhaps the following notes on Persia may interest some of your readers:—

1919 *Provisoire Lithographed issue*.—In addition to the errors mentioned in my recent article, I have since come across a pair of the 1 chahi yellow with dates "1999" and "9191". The Director-General of Posts informs me that 800 sheets (of 100) contained this pair of errors, and as soon as they were discovered they were taken from the sheet and the remaining 98 put into circulation, so that very few escaped.

I have also a 12 chahi blue mint with the 2 in 12 inverted thus—12 chahis. I am told at the Post Office that only some 40 sheets contained this error before it was spotted at the printing office and corrected, and the errors were likewise abstracted from the sheets before issue, so that this error was never actually issued and is consequently exceedingly rare.

The Bolshevik invasion of Persia has produced no philatelic novelties, but all letters from Fesht were censored with a stamp reading "Posti dowlati jamhoori shoravi Iran" (Post of the Constitutional Republic of Persia). Later, this was overstamped in black squares, presumably by the Persian Post Office.

R. W. GRAY

Kazeroun.

N the Philatelic Journal of India for September, 1920, Mr. Godinho under the above heading says "Although these stamps were introduced under a mistaken sense of patriotism, their legality has been admitted."

As this statement is, I expect, made owing to these stamps having been catalogued by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, I hasten to warn all collectors that their legality *has not been admitted* and that Messrs. Gibbons only inserted them in their catalogue owing to their receipt of wrong information, and they are not likely to appear in the next edition of Vol. II. I have shown this note to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons before dispatch to you and they agree with the contents.

Having been in Shiraz during the time of the existence of these stamps, I speak with knowledge. Reference my previous notes on these stamps, I repeat that the die used for this Kazerun overprint was offered to me for a sum of money, also, that many more duplicate dies have been made in the local bazars, and these stamps together with the LAR issue are to be had by the score in the Shiraz Bazar, many of them made in Shiraz.

The point is, that these stamps were not issued at Kazerun, but all letters passing through Kazerun from Bushire to the interior were censored by the Nasr-i-Diwan and the stamps (already obliterated in Bushire) were obliterated over the original postmark with this overprint which speaks for itself.—Millat-i-Kazerun, meaning, "kingdom of Kazerun."—Rebellion in the new style!!

LONDON, }
"18th October, 1920. } A. E. STEWART, LT.-COLONEL.

Early Indian Cancellations.

Type 4.

111 Rutnagerry.

This has been reported by Col. A. E. Stewart. In our last issue, we chronicled the same number in Type 9.

119 Rajkot 1868.

Type 8.

90 Bijapur (Bombay).

This number is the same as in type 4.

New Issues.

BRITISH EMPIRE

Newfoundland.—Three cents on 15c. and 35c. and two cents on 30c. to meet a temporary deficiency. All are in fairly small numbers.

Palestine.—The E. E. F. series overprinted Palestine in English, Arabic and Hebrew.

Straits Settlements.—6c., purple and 10c., bright blue.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Belgium.—The frame of the 65c. is in two shades—reddish or purple (sometimes almost brown.) The first colour is on white, rather greasy paper. The second is on greyish-white paper.—*Stamp Collecting*.

Carinthia.—For the plebiscite, 19 issues of German Austria overprinted “Kartner Abstimmung.”

Crete.—A set of six pictorials.

Czecho-Slovakia.—The 200, 500 and 1,000 hellers overprinted with aeroplane and new values, 14, 24 and 28 krone, for the aerial post.

Esthonia.—1 mark on 35 penni, rose-red.

Finland.—New colours, as follows:—5p. grey, 10p. green, 20p. red, 40p. lilac and 50p. dark blue.

Fiume.—A new set with the head of D'Annunzio.

France.—The current 5c. on 10c. overprinted “Postes Paris 1920” for use on newspapers in the Paris District only.

Holland.—The 10 gulden of 1913 and the current 10 gulden surcharged 2·50. 40c., green and rose-orange.

Latvia.—10, 20 and 30 roubles on the 1 rouble, green and red. Three red cross stamps, perf. and imperf.

Silesia.—44 stamps of Czecho-Slovakia overprinted S. O. 1920 for the Eastern Silesia plebiscite. A similar overprint on 10 Polish stamps. A special pictorial issue of 22 is also in preparation to commemorate this event.

Sweden.—60 ore, claret and 80 ore, blue-green.

Also Air Post stamps, overprinted “Luft post” in semi-circle, and surcharged with new values in the official type of 1910-11. 10 on 3 ore, 20 on 2 ore, and 50 on 4 ore.

Extracts.

Belgium and Bond Street.—“Probably few philatelists are aware of the romantic story behind the popular, ‘Tin Hat’ issue of Belgian stamps. The portrait of King Albert on this issue is engraved from a photograph taken by an Englishman, Mr. R. N. Speaight, of New Bond Street. While the war was on Mr. Speaight went across to Belgium to photograph the King; the sitting took place in an old barn, used as a garage by the King and his staff, near the front line, and in spite of the rough and stormy day and the bad light, the result was highly successful.”—*The Philatelic Magazine*.

Periods in Stamps.—“When stamps are old enough to be more generally collected by periods it will be more clearly realised that, as a whole, they synchronise in character with the history of the period of their production. The early engraved issues are delightful examples of craftsmanship born of leisure. The mediocrity in design of what are known as the ‘middle issues’ typifies the utilitarian and unimaginative period after 1870. With the early years of the twentieth century came signs of a Renaissance, in which the crudities of modern European stamp designs are probably but a fleeting phase. However modern Europeans may be decried on the score of ugliness, their historic interest is undeniable.”—*I bid.*

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On the 21st September the Police at Calcutta arrested an Australian and a Scotchman as a result of the find by the Customs Officials of eleven revolvers and Rs. 7,000 worth of mint sheets of Indian stamps after a search in the quartermaster’s bunk in the s.s. “City of Manchester.” This lot of stamps is believed to be part of a consignment shipped by the s.s. “Maidan” from London for Madras which was stolen at about this time last year. The stolen consignment is alleged to be worth about a lakh of rupees (nearly £ 10,000.)—*Western India Philatelic Review.*

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A Visit to the Ferrary Collection.—“The collection was arranged in a large room with shelves on all sides, divided into compartments. The compartments were again divided into different countries or colonies, fitted with portfolios—usually one or more for each issue—and, in most cases, again sub-divided into covers for each separate issue; or in some cases for each individual stamp.

Of course with such an accumulation it was impossible to obtain otherwise than a general outline of the whole. Ferrary was a buyer of anything that took his fancy; sometimes he argued about the price, but as a rule he paid well for what he wanted. Notwithstanding what many assert, he was a philatelist, and his actual knowledge was, I believe, much greater than many imagine.

If I were to go into details I could perhaps fill columns, but as I am told the collection is to be put on the market, all will be known about its contents in good time.

Ferrary kept a secretary to look after the collection, the late M. Pierre Mahe, and also M. Schmidt de Wilde who was in charge of the collection of entires.”—*The Stamp Collectors’ Monthly Circular*

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Danzig new issues.—“All day long the Post Office counters are besieged by long queues of the public clamouring for the third Danzig issue in good time. Very soon certain values were sold out and many of the values exceeding 1 mark can to-day be obtained, with luck, in single stamps only. More than three-fourths of the stamps sold have been diverted from their proper postal traffic by collectors and speculators, and scarcely one-fourth remains for postage purposes, although many of the first issue are still on sale. The senior Post Office authorities have therefore been obliged, as we reported to overprint every old ‘Germania’ stamp they have been able to lay hands on, to prevent the words ‘sold out’ figuring over the counters.”—*Whitfield King’s Monthly Circular.*

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“In choosing a distraction,” “that is to say, in choosing a rival to his business—he (the plain man) should select some pursuit whose nature differs as much as possible from the nature of his business, and which will bring into activity another side of his

character. If his business is monotonous, demanding care and solicitude, rather than irregular intense efforts of the brain, then let his distraction be such as will make powerful call upon his brain. But if, on the other hand, the course of his business runs in crises that string up the brain to its tightest strain, then let his distraction be a foolish and merry one. Many men fall into the error of assuming that their hobbies must be as dignified and serious as their avocations, though surely the example of the greatest philosophers ought to have taught them better."—*Arnold Bennet on Hobbies.*

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Reviews.

British and Colonial Postage Stamps, by Douglas B. Armstrong, Methuen and Co. Ltd., 36 Essex Street, W. C. London. Price 7/6 net.—The scope of book is best described by a quotation from the author's introduction.—"In it an attempt has been made to provide, for the first time, a real companion, or what, for want of a better word, may be called a 'commentary' on the stamp album: a book that the collector may peruse with his album open before him, and thereby obtain a new insight into the manifold charms and interests of philately, enabling him or her to understand the why and wherefore of the various issues, and inducing a proper appreciation of their collections.

The information given is intended to supplement and elaborate the bare lists of stamps and their varieties contained in the standard stamp catalogues or printed albums, and the chapters deal mainly with the various designs and their significance, names of artists and engravers, printers and methods of manufacture, dates of issue, causes influencing the various changes, errors and outstanding varieties, etc., together with some notes on rarities and values generally. Curious and romantic facts relating to particular stamps are fully set forth."

Mr. Armstrong has discharged his task admirably. Naturally, he refers his readers to the handbooks on special countries if they desire a more detailed and scientific account of the philatelic history of any country. But in Mr. Armstrong's pages, the collector will find much that he wishes to know and that he should know, throwing a new light on his stamps and stimulating his interest in them. We again quote Mr. Armstrong's words:—"to the enlightened collector his stamp album represents more than a glorified form of scrap book; on the contrary, it is for him a compendium of fascinating facts and fables upon a vast number of topics, a storehouse of knowledge and a mine of information." We strongly recommend Mr. Armstrong's book as a permanent valuable book of reference.

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Endles' Directory, 29th Edition, compiled and published by S. Utton, 74 Canterbury Road, Croydon. Price 2·6.—The compiler is to be congratulated on the completeness of the information which he has collected. The names of those in the Philatelic "Business" world in various countries and listed by countries, fill about 57 pages. There are also lists of Philatelic Papers, Exchanges, and Societies. There are a very large number of advertisements from all countries. As a work of reference, the Directory is invaluable to dealers and to active collectors.

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12
July 18

Dear Mr. & Mrs. [unclear]
I am sending you a
saddled mule
and to [unclear]
with

Arrived

All prepared
and ready
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mule
will be
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and to [unclear]

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